

## Courtroom shocker!

Knoller's attorney blames Sharon Smith for Diane Whipple's dog mauling death.  
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## Landmark moment

Gay Israeli group Aguda meets with Ariel Sharon.  
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## Pacific Rim and beyond

Dark comedies, queer shorts in Asian American Film Fest.  
see Arts section



# BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 32 • No. 10 • 7 March 2002

Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

## SIR LEADER BILL BEARDEMPHL DIES AT 75

by Paul Gabriel

**S**tonewall. "Gay liberation." "Anita Bryant." "Orange Tuesday." "Harvey Milk." These are the people and events that have come to typify the birth of gay and lesbian revolutionary politics.

But before the 1970s, a dedicated group of activists blazed a trail no less pioneering and in many respects just as daring and revolutionary. One of the most important of these individuals was Bill Beardemphl, who died after battling cancer on February 13. He was 75.

Mr. Beardemphl transformed dances into revolutionary activities. He served as founding president of a watershed gay rights organization and acted as one of the driving forces behind the first national gathering of homosexual activists. He established and published a major gay newspaper and led a group of people who gave shape to the modern June Pride Parade. Above all else, he was an activist in the grand civil rights and union organizing tradition.

Born in 1926 in Tacoma, Washington, Mr. Beardemphl hailed from Polish Catholic stock on his mother's side. His father worked as an equipment operator for the electric light company of the city of Tacoma.

At a vocational school in Tacoma, and later at the Olympic Hotel in Seattle, Mr. Beardemphl trained under French chefs, and in the late 1950s moved out to New York to work at the Pierre Hotel. There he met his life partner, John DeLeon, a professional dancer from Puerto Rico who had studied at the Ballet Theater School in New York. The two often went to Mafia-controlled gay bars, where dancing was permitted in basement rooms, though subject to raids and police harassment. This experience was to have a profound political and social effect when the couple moved to San Francisco in 1962.

DeLeon noticed immediately that San Francisco had no public venue for gay dancing. Since the bars were not Mafia controlled but privately owned, they were more exposed to police and Alcohol and Beverage Control regulations. Behavior codes were strictly enforced and bodily contact of any kind, even the harmless placing of a hand on a shoulder, was strongly discouraged.

Mr. Beardemphl decided that this situation must change. His push to  
page 15 ►



Bill Beardemphl



Hundreds of people stream into San Francisco's new LGBT Community Center on opening day following speeches, music, and the ribbon cutting.

Rick Gendler

## CASTRO REMAINS AN IDEAL ADDRESS FOR MERCHANTS

by Matthew S. Bajko

**T**he Upper Market and Castro area may be peppered with a dozen vacant prime retail locations. But looks can be deceiving.

Behind the "For Lease" signs is a flurry of rental activity and plans for several new businesses to move into the area. Over the next six months, at least four businesses plan to open: Patelco Credit Union, Diesel, AT&T Wireless, and Catch, a Mediterranean seafood restaurant.

Despite the loss of several businesses, such as Uncle Mame's, Pulp, Cafe Focus, and Watchzone, which last month moved from its Castro location into San Francisco Centre, several businesses have moved into the neighborhood. Pottery Barn, Barking Frog, Get-Ups clothing store, and a new Wells Fargo branch have all opened over the past six months.

And leasing agents for several vacant spaces expect to lease their properties by the end of the year. The agent showing the newly renovated 2,943 square foot space at 2260 Market Street said he is confident it will be rented.

"We have had some interest but right now nobody is signed up," said Jerry Moskowitz, an agent with Edward Plant. "It has been a little bit slow as you can imagine."

Most notably, the former Cal Fed bank location on the corner of Market and Church streets should have a new tenant by the end of the year.

"It's a very unique situation I have there," said Hans Hannson, an agent with Starboard Commercial Real Estate. "It is a gorgeous space but it is not functional inside. It is an oval with a mezzanine inside."

Despite the odd shape and an interior designed to fit the needs of a bank, Hannson said it is not for lack of interest that the building sits empty. Owners of an antique shop,  
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The Watchzone on Market Street in the Castro moved downtown but other businesses are looking to move into the neighborhood.

Jane Phomen Claudi

mattress store, and a number of bars and restaurants have all inquired about the space.

"It really has nothing to do with the economic excitement with the area. There is demand there. People want to be there because it is a viable community with money," said Hannson. "The building's owners are not willing to do a market rate deal."

At least not until November when the old lease with Cal Fed expires. Under the original terms, the 6,850 square foot space rented for \$2.50 per square foot.

With rents now averaging \$1.25 a square foot, the owners have no economic incentive to rent the property until the original tenant's  
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## LGBT CENTER OPENS AT LAST

by Cynthia Laird

**U**nder skies drenched in sunlight, hundreds of people gathered at 1800 Market Street to witness the ribbon-cutting of the LGBT Community Center—housed inside the Charles M. Holmes Campus of the Center—Sunday, March 3. After nine years of planning, countless delays, and millions of dollars raised, the center was officially opened with elected officials cutting a giant red ribbon.

"This glorious day is a climax to a long and challenging journey," said Pat Martel, president of the center's board of directors. "It's made possible by the dedication of the board of directors and hundreds of others. Today, we open the doors and turn over the keys."

Started about nine years ago when queer activists decided San Francisco needed a community center—after earlier ones closed—the process leading up to Sunday's grand opening has been long and sometimes contentious. After finally settling on the 1800 Market Street location several years ago, the center's board battled preservationists over the fate of the Victorian that is now part of the center. On Sunday, some of the speakers alluded to the difficult road.

"For those who doubted us, we finally did it," Martel said.

Dana Van Gorder, vice president of the board, singled out the Friends of 1800, a group of preservationists who spearheaded saving the Victorian. "I have to say the Friends of 1800 were absolutely right."

Van Gorder dedicated his remarks to the  
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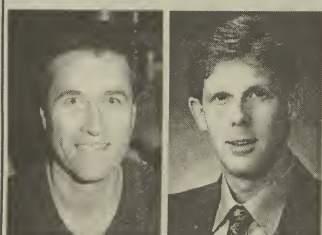


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# Community to vote for the vital and the villains

by Katie Szymanski

In addition to the array of heroes and leaders on the ballot or individual grand marshal of the LGBT Pride Parade, the community will be asked to vote for others they love — and hate — for recognition at the 2002 event. There are 20 nominees for the organization grand marshal, or that group which most deserves to be honored during this year's parade. Thankfully, the community could only come up with eight nominees for the "Pink Brick Award," otherwise known as the "honor" of being named the worst enemy to lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgenders.

Which bigot would you most like to honor with a brick? The choice is yours during grand marshal voting, and the candidates are an impressive list indeed. Nominees include Gary Bauer, the right-wing 2000 presidential candidate and former Reagan aide who built a platform upon condemning gays (later made more famous in the LGBT community when sex columnist Dan Savage volunteered undercover for his

campaign and licked his telephone receiver while ill with the flu); right-wing Christians the Reverend Jerry Falwell (ex-gay supporter and the one who outed Teletubby Tinky Winky); Pat Robertson (from the 700 Club and other anti-gay mediums); the Reverend Lou Sheldon (founder of the Traditional Values Coalition); Fred Phelps (who pickets AIDS funerals and hate crime victim funerals); and Dr. Laura Schlessinger, who has "lovingly" referred to gays as "biological errors." Politicos will be happy to note that the racist, homophobic Senator Jesse Helms is also in the running (although he recently apologized for not doing more to combat AIDS), as is the government of Egypt for its arrest and conviction of dozens of men on homosexuality charges. Notably absent from the list is the U.S. government, which just pledged over \$10 billion to Egypt, according to the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, and which harbors its own laws against sodomy.

But all on the Pride ballot is not so depressing.

Voters will also get to choose their favorite community organization for grand marshal. Nominees include the Latino/a LGBT organization AGUILAS; the gay Muslim group Al-Fatiha; the Asian Pacific Islander Wellness Center; Bay Area Young Positives; the Black Coalition on AIDS; the lobbying group California Alliance for Pride and Equality; City of Refuge Community Church; Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere; the LGBT Community Center Project; the gay hip-hop group Deep Dickollective; the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission; Larkin Street Youth; New Leaf Outreach Services to Elders; the Pacific Center For Human Growth; Positive Resource Center; San Francisco AIDS Foundation; the lesbian spoken word troupe Sister Spit; the Stop AIDS Project; Theater Rhinoceros; and the Transgender Civil Rights Implementation Task Force.

Voting will take place through April 15 at various events, parties, and establishments throughout the Bay Area; for an updated list of polling places, as well as instructions on how to vote, visit [www.sfpride.org](http://www.sfpride.org). ▼

# Partial closure of Castro's 17th Street proposed

by Katie Szymanski

Whether as streetcar passengers, automobile users, or pedestrians, most Castro-frequenterers would agree that the intersection of 17th, Castro, and Market streets, home to the F-line transportation island, is a hangout for people on foot, and an obstacle course for drivers. Yet precisely because of the combination of confused car drivers and lingering pedestrians, the intersection has been deemed as one of the most dangerous in San Francisco.

Castro Area Planning Action, a neighborhood group that has been involved in several initiatives to improve Harvey Milk Plaza, will host a community meeting on Thursday, March 14 to discuss a trial closure of one side of 17th Street. CAPA, in an effort to address pedestrian concerns and create, in the words of member Joe Curtin, "a true plaza," has been working with neighbors and groups for a few years now to design and implement a memorial to Harvey Milk that is functional

and fosters community. A design competition for the plaza in 2000 garnered over 100 entries, all of which called for the closure of 17th Street. The intersection would in effect be returned to the people, according to CAPA's proposal, "opening up space for socializing, people-watching, outdoor dining, community gathering, and window shopping," which is not that much different from what happens already. Emergency vehicle access would be maintained, and additions like outdoor seating and more trash receptacles are proposed.

"This is a response to the way people act in the real world," said Curtin. "People are already using it as a plaza, and this proposal would just make it safer to do so."

A study from the San Francisco Department of Parking and Traffic predicted "minimum impact on cars and traffic," said Curtin, "but there would be a maximum positive impact for pedestrians."

There are some concerns, as CAPA has acknowledged, but the group believes it can address them effectively. The merchants on 17th

Street, for instance, don't want to lose delivery truck access, the nearby gas station does not want to become a short cut, and the addition of proposed street seating could encourage homeless congregation. With seats designed for sitting, not sleeping; proper road signs encouraging motorists to use more convenient cross-town roads; increased police presence, and ideas from the community, CAPA believes it can create the best of all worlds for everybody.

The closure of 17th Street is proposed for a trial period of one year, and is the result of many meetings with various city departments and neighborhood representatives. It will be at least several months until funds are raised and city planning requirements are met, but in the meantime, the public is invited to share its ideas next Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Castro meeting room above Bank of America, 501 Castro Street at 18th. The goal of the forum is to refine the proposal with community input during a "design workshop."

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# Leno leads in close race

by Wayne Friday

**D**emocratic voters in San Francisco's 13th Assembly District apparently have chosen Supervisor Mark Leno over former Supervisor Harry Britt as their nominee to replace termed-out Assemblywoman Carole Migden in Sacramento, according to early, unofficial returns.

At press time, with all 376 precincts counted in the district but with an undetermined number of absentee and provisional ballots to be tallied, Leno was holding a 701-vote lead over Britt with the two other candidates, Steve Phillips and Holli Thier, trailing badly.

Leno told the *Bay Area Reporter* that Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano called to congratulate him Wednesday morning and most political observers feel that Britt will be unable to overtake Leno in absentee votes. The absentee ballots that were counted Tuesday night mostly went to Leno. Counting of the outstanding absentee and provisional ballots was expected to be completed this week.

Leno will face a Republican, Gail Neira, in the heavily Democratic district in the November general election and is now expected to become one of the first openly gay men elected to the California Legislature.

In the city's 12th Assembly District, Supervisor Leland Yee easily beat Board of Education member Dan Kelly to become the



Supervisor Sophie Maxwell, left, congratulated Supervisor Mark Leno at his election night party Tuesday.

Democratic nominee and will face a token GOP opponent, Howard Epstein, in the heavily Democratic district in November.

In the bitter race for San Francisco public defender, Kimiko Burton, the daughter of state Senate leader John Burton, lost her job to former Chief Deputy Public Defender Jeff Adachi by more than 10 percentage points. Kimiko Burton was appointed to the position a year ago by Mayor Willie Brown. Despite having heavy Democratic Party establishment and labor support and having outspent Adachi by better than 6 to 1, Burton lost her first bid for elective office. Adachi, whom Kimiko Burton fired her first day on the job, will take over the public defender post in January.

In another hard-fought contest, Assessor-Recorder Doris Ward, a longtime figure in local politics, trailed challenger Mabel

Teng, a former supervisor, and the two will meet in a November runoff. There were six candidates in that race and none of them received the majority plus one needed to win outright.

San Francisco County Propositions A (instant runoff voting), B (retirement cost of living increases), D (Planning Commission and Board of Appeals appointments), E (retiree domestic partners), F (bond spending oversight committee), and G (outdoor advertising) all passed. Proposition C (noncitizens on city boards) went down to defeat.

In the 27th Assembly District (Santa Cruz), former Santa Cruz Mayor John Laird won the Democratic nomination and becomes the early favorite to win in November. Should that happen, Laird and Leno would become the first openly gay elected men in the

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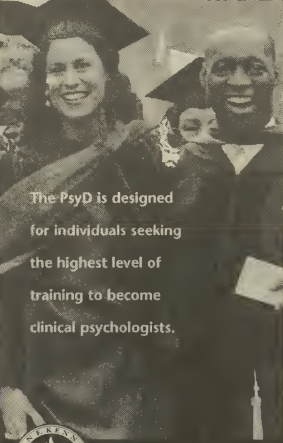
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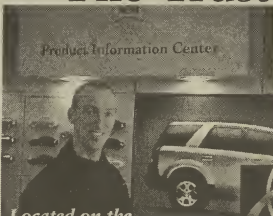


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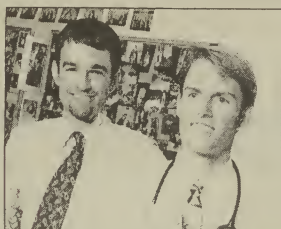


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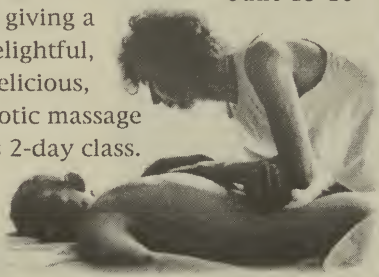
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# Wedding bells to ring at City Hall during DP ceremony

by Matthew S. Bajko

After five years, Howard Johnson and Michael Tayloe are ready to tie the knot. In November, the couple will throw a private ceremony for their friends and family.

But the two aren't waiting until the fall to exchange vows. They will join 74 other couples under the Rotunda at City Hall on March 21 to be wed by Mayor Willie Brown.

"We thought this one would be kind of fun," said Johnson, 42, and a computer consultant. "For me, this is the closest legal event that we are going to get to take part in in the near future."

The ceremony will be the seventh of its kind for Mayor Brown, who has seen 467 gay and lesbian couples become domestic partners during the ceremonies. The ceremony not only cements the couples' bonds but also serves somewhat as a protest flowered with romance.

"Under current laws this is the penultimate of getting the government to recognize our relationship," said Tayloe, 39, and a certified meeting planner. "The fact that the city recognizes it is a great step forward. Maybe it will lead to further recognition down the road."

While the passage of AB25 last year expanded the rights that same-sex couples are granted by the state, gay marriage is still not recognized in California or anywhere else in the country. A bill that would have established civil unions went nowhere in the state Legislature this session and was withdrawn earlier this year.

To Jack Robinson, 46, and a venture capitalist, and Adrian Chua, 30, and an art student in sculpture, just having the chance to show their love for each other is reason enough to take part in the City Hall ceremony. The couple

left Malaysia and moved to San Francisco to escape that country's oppressive laws against homosexuals.

"We wanted to live an open life as two gay men in love with each other. It is something we couldn't do there," said Robinson.

After seeing numerous straight friends exchange rings, Robinson is looking forward to experiencing the same moment himself.

"It is really great we can have this, even though it is not legalized yet by the same laws straights have. Still, this is something along the way," he said. "We can enjoy the same acknowledgment in society that we are a couple, a unit,

partners for life."

Taking part in the City Hall event shines not only a spotlight on the inequity homosexual couples face, it offers couples like Tayloe and Johnson a practice run at saying "I do."

"I will be more nervous for the private one," said Tayloe.

The City Hall ceremony will take place from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 21 and is open to 75 couples. The deadline to register is Friday, March 15.

Registration forms can be picked up at the County Clerk's office in City Hall, Room 168. For more information call (415) 554-4960. ▼

# Bi and TG center opening parties this Saturday

by Liz Highleyman

This Saturday, March 9, the bisexual and transgender communities will both hold parties to celebrate the opening of San Francisco's new LGBT Community Center.

Bi and For the People, presented by the Center for Sex and Culture, the American Institute of Bisexuality, and Good Vibrations, will be "a gala celebration of unity and diversity for the bisexual community and friends." The event will feature entertainment, readings, and acknowledgments of local bi activists and allies.

The evening will begin and end with ambient sounds provided by DJ Pusspuss. The headline performer will be post-porn modernist Annie Sprinkle. Other entertainers include activist artists Keith Hennessy and Jade Blue Eclipse, stand-up comedian and Safe Sex Slut Rob Yeager, Lindasusan and the Total Babes, and members of the latex-loving Moral Minority. Carol Queen, co-founder of the Center for Sex and Culture, will emcee. Interpretation will be provided for the hearing impaired.

Some Kind of Queer, which

will happen simultaneously, is a party for "Trans, Drag, Intersex, Genderqueer, Beyond...and Our Friends." The event, produced by Jordy Jones and presented by Trans-Art, TransBay, and Tranny Fest, will feature an extravaganza of genderqueer talent including bands, DJs, spoken word and performance artists, carnival acts, and a video lounge.

Entertainers will include DJ Juanita Morel, Ms. Bob Davis, Deep Dickollective, Thea Hillman, Veronica Klaus, Max Wolf Valerio, the Woodyz, and Shawna Virago and the Deadly Nightshade Family. Emcees will include Heklina and Pippi Lovestocking of Trannyshack, Fairy Butch, Cooper Lee Bombardier, and Sister Kitty Catalyst.

Both events run from 7 p.m. until 1 a.m. at the center, 1800 Market Street. The bi party will take place in the Rainbow Room, while the trans party transpires in the Ceremonial Room. Both will feature refreshments and themed side rooms. Each party is \$5-20 sliding scale, with no one turned away for lack of funds, or check out both for \$10-25. Proceeds will support future bi, TG, and genderqueer programming at the center. ▼

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# Defense: Blame Sharon Smith

by Ed Walsh

As the defense takes its turn this week in the dog-mauling case, supporters of victim Diane Whipple are still reeling from a defense strategy to blame Whipple's partner, Sharon Smith.

Last week, Nedra Ruiz, the flamboyant lawyer for Marjorie Knoller, who was with her two dogs during the fatal hallway attack on Whipple, implied that Smith bared some responsibility for the mauling because she didn't report an earlier incident in which Whipple was allegedly bitten on the hand by one of the dogs.

Courtroom observers gasped when Ruiz asked Smith during cross-examination: "Do you con-

sider that had you made a complaint, Diane Whipple might be alive today?"

Lead prosecutor Jim Hammer immediately objected and the question was set aside. Smith told reporters outside court that she was shocked and offended by the question.

The prosecution concluded its case on Monday, March 4, with the last of its 39 witnesses, San Francisco Medical Examiner Dr. Boyd Stephens. Prosecutors displayed several gruesome autopsy photographs of Whipple in the course of Stephens's testimony prompting some observers, including Whipple's mother, Pamela Whipple-Kelly, to walk out.

Prosecutor Kimberly Guilfoyle-Newsom told reporters outside

court that it was necessary to show the photographs to counter Knoller's claim that she heroically put herself between one of her dogs and Whipple during the January 26, 2001 attack. Guilfoyle-Newsom said that if that were the case, Whipple wouldn't have been bitten in virtually every part of her body and Knoller would have been much more seriously injured.

Whipple-Kelly is among several who attend the trial each day. She is assigned a reserved seat in the downtown Los Angeles courtroom that has room for about 40 observers. Knoller's parents are seated directly behind Whipple-Kelly.

Knoller's mother, Harriet Knoller, told the *Bay Area Reporter* outside court that Whipple-Kelly has been very gracious to her and

her husband. She added that she felt very sorry for Whipple's death but insisted it wasn't her daughter's fault.

"They are charging her with murder, for what? This was an accident," she said.

"You should write about how she is being treated in jail," she added, explaining that when she visits her daughter in the Los Angeles County Jail, she has to talk to her through glass while she remains handcuffed to a pole.

The trial is also being attended by Smith's sister, Janet Batchelder. She told the B.A.R. that she plans to attend every day to support her sister and Whipple's memory. Although Smith was allowed to observe opening statements, because she is a witness, she was not allowed back in court until her testimony last week.

Knoller, 46, is being charged with second-degree murder. Her husband, Robert Noel, 60, faces involuntary manslaughter as his most serious charge. Each also faces a charge of keeping a mischievous animal that killed a human being. The trial was moved to Los Angeles because of the extensive pretrial publicity in the Bay Area.

Defense attorneys plan to call more than 30 witnesses who are expected to testify that the couple's two dogs were gentle. They hope to counterbalance a string of prosecution witnesses who've described dangerous close encounters with the dogs. Both Knoller and Noel are expected to take the stand. ▼



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## New HMI series kicks off tonight

by Liz Highleyman

The Harvey Milk Institute once again has produced a brand new catalog of classes and events. HMI has relocated to its new home in the Charles M. Holmes Campus of The Center, and will debut its new Arts and Lecture Series, co-produced with the LGBT community center.

The series kicks off tonight (Thursday, March 7) at 7:30 p.m. during the center's opening week, with two simultaneous events. Authors Kirk Read (*How I Learned to Snap*) and Bernard Cooper (*Truth Serum*) will appear in the Ceremonial Room, while Marci Blackman (*Po Man's Child*), Thea Hillman (*Depending on the Light*), Sini Anderson, and Elvira Kurt hold forth in the Rainbow Room.

The Arts and Lecture Series will continue year-round on the first and third Thursdays of each month, featuring local and national poets, historians, writers, academics, and visual artists. Upcoming speakers will include photographers Tee Corinne and Laurie Toby Edison, historian Susan Stryker, and authors Michelle Tea and Shar Rednour.

HMI's spanking new administrative office is located on the third floor of the center's Victori-

an Building, in suite Q-31. Most of HMI's classes this semester will take place at the center. Classes are under way and will continue through the end of May.

Spring offerings cover a wide range of topics, with an emphasis this semester on arts and sex. Classes of note include "What's Your Story?", a course by author Carol Queen on writing memoirs and personal essays; Annie Sprinkle's "Super Sex Technologies for Women" (learn about soundgasm); the "Religion and Civilization of Islam and Contemporary Arab Culture," which will include a look at the experiences of LGBT communities in Southwest Asia and North Africa; and "Uncle Lynce's Academy for Ladies and Gentlemen," the successor to last semester's "Skool 4 Boyz."

Other topics include queer journalism, grant-writing, dating for dykes and gay men, how to purchase your first home, beginning black and white photography, sewing for beginners, Spanish for queer travelers, and anger and conflict management in gay male relationships.

Other HMI spring events include the "Spring Fling" fundraising event on March 14, a daylong conference on sexuality and aging on March 16, Gendertalk 2: A

Community Dialogue on April 21, Genderblast IV on April 27, the opening reception for the "Catching Up with the Cockettes" archival photo exhibit on May 31, and the National Queer Arts Festival running throughout June. ▼

The HMI catalog is available at many Bay Area venues, including the community center. Arts and Lecture Series events are \$10-\$25, sliding scale. For info, visit [www.harveymilk.org](http://www.harveymilk.org), call (415) 552-7200, or e-mail [harvmilk@aol.com](mailto:harvmilk@aol.com).

## VOTE FOR PRIDE '02 GRAND MARSHALS AND PINK BRICK

You may vote for three in each category. Please add your name and address below to ensure that only one ballot per person gets counted. Then mail only to the address below. Envelopes containing more than two ballots will be invalid. Photocopied ballot forms are also invalid. *Deadline for receipt (not postmark) of ballots is Monday, April 15th.*

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Lisa Chun & Esther Louie	Jadine Louie	Michelle Tea
Brenda Crawford	Rev. Penny Nixon	Shawna Virago
Jewelle Gomez	Donna Sachet	Seth Watkins
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### Organizational Nominees (circle up to three)

Aguilas	COLAGE	Positive Resource Center
Al-Fatihah	Community Center Project	SF AIDS Foundation
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CAPE	New Leaf	Transgender Civil Rights
City of Refuge	Outreach to Elders	Implementation Task Force
	Pacific Center	

### Pink Brick Nominees (circle up to three)

Gary Bauer	Jesse Helms	Pat Robertson
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## OPEN FORUM

## A hard-fought race

From the unofficial election returns early Wednesday morning, it appears that San Francisco Supervisor Mark Leno has won the hotly contested Democratic nomination for the 13th Assembly District race. Leno was confident enough to declare victory late Tuesday night, though the race between him and former Supervisor Harry Britt remains extremely close with a few thousand absentee ballots yet to be counted.

The campaign between Leno and Britt was tough and hard-fought; it divided the LGBT community in a way that has become all too familiar in recent years. From Tom Ammiano's unsuccessful bid to unseat Mayor Willie Brown in 1999 to the district elections for supervisors in 2000, the community has been split between those who describe themselves as "pure" progressives and those who identify more as "pragmatic" progressives. Leno has faced this division once before—in his race for District 8 supervisor. Back then, Leno fended off a challenge from Eileen Hansen and narrowly won the race in a runoff. This time, Leno appears poised to win again, but by the slimmest of margins.

Bowing to the expected outcome, Ammiano called Leno Wednesday morning to offer his congratulations. While Britt hadn't conceded the election by press time, most observers don't feel he can overtake Leno's lead with the absentee ballots left to count.

While supporters of Britt and Leno have traded jabs over the course of the campaign, the two sides agree on a host of matters. LGBT supporters of both Leno and Britt, for instance, support more equality for the community, strongly support more progressive legislation that would benefit the transgender community, and support environmental and affordable housing matters. In fact, Ammiano, one of Britt's chief backers, co-sponsored Leno's affordable housing legislation that will soon come before the full board.

Where Leno apparently has succeeded is in his efforts to build a broad-based coalition. If he holds on to his lead in the primary, as is expected, he will need his diplomatic skills to maintain his broad support head-

ing into November's general election. Because the 13th District is heavily Democratic, Leno is favored to win, thus becoming one of the first openly gay men to ever serve in the state Legislature. John Laird in Santa Cruz is poised to become the other openly gay Assembly member, as he easily won the Democratic primary and is expected to win in November.

Since qualified open lesbians have won in the Assembly and state Senate during the past several years, it will be an achievement to have the state's first openly gay men elected to the Legislature, thus reflecting more accurately the makeup of the state's electorate. During the Leno-Britt race, it was evident early on that the contest would come down to either of these men, and that the other candidates, Steve Phillips and Holli Thier, did not pose serious challenges.

During the just-concluded campaign,

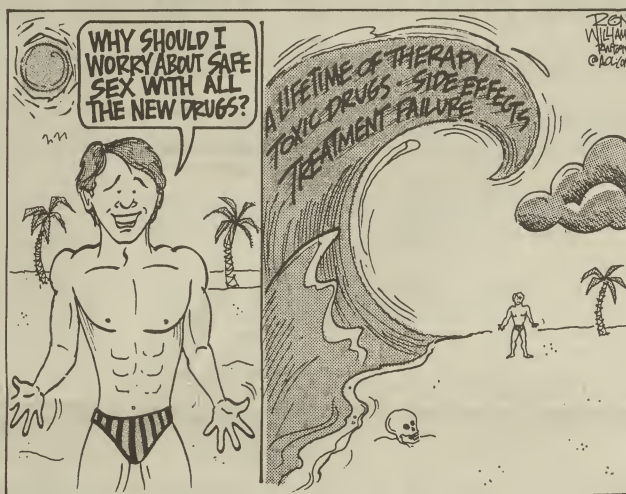
organized labor clearly lined up behind Britt, and the various unions must now come to terms with two significant losses: Britt's race and that of Public Defender Kimiko Burton, who lost to challenger Jeff Adachi. Often the powerhouse behind Democratic candidates, organized labor was dealt a blow Tuesday, along with Ammiano and termed out Assemblywoman Carole Migden (both of whom supported Britt) and Mayor Brown (who backed Phillips).

Does this mean machine politics is dead in San Francisco? We're not sure, but they certainly suffered Tuesday. For all their talk about being progressive and above machine politics, Britt and his backers were really just

another type of machine-style political operation. Leno was the independent without the backing of Migden, Brown, or organized labor, yet he appears to have won the race. ▼



## Editorial



## Restrictions for prison visitors

by Judy Greenspan  
and Kevin Weaver

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender relationships are under attack by the California Department of Corrections (CDC). On March 8, new and more punitive restrictions will be placed on families, partners, and friends who wish to visit their loved ones in California state prisons. If we don't act now to protest this latest human rights abuse, many families—especially queer families—will suffer greatly.

These new draconian restrictions include requiring children over 7 to present photo IDs, having their background checked for criminal activity (!), and preventing them from sitting on their father's lap after their 7th birthday. Prisoners convicted of some drug-related offenses will not be allowed to have contact visits (regular social visits) for one year. In addition, visitation of prisoners in the security housing unit (SHU) will be limited to "immediate family members" only. The California Department of Corrections has made it clear that it has only a heterosexual view of marriage and immediate family, meaning that LGBT spouses of incarcerated individuals will be further denied rights married, heterosexual partners currently have. Of course, this change not only includes LGBT folks, but common law heterosexual relationships and common friendships will be affected as well.

Psychiatrist Dr. Terry Kupers, author of *Prison Madness: The Mental Health Crisis Behind Bars and What We Must Do About It*, further explains the problems with the proposed visit changes. He says that "with prisoners who act out and get sent to the SHU,

and with prisoners who have substance abuse problems, every effort should be made to increase their visitation, not restrict it, because contact with loved ones is the best opportunity there is for helping them stop acting out and halt their drug use. In fact, research clearly shows that sustained quality visitation during the entirety of a prison term is the strongest factor in the prisoner's eventual success at 'going straight' after being released, and quality visitation is negatively correlated with recidivism rates. Inversely, restricting their visits is the best way to cause prisoners to despair and resort to acting out or drugs all the more. In other words, the prisoners the CDC is singling out for visit restrictions are precisely the prisoners who should never have their visits restricted."

Denying visitation to prisoners for reasons as arbitrary as this is a fundamental affront to the human rights of prisoners and an escalation of the contempt the California Department of Corrections has for poor people in California, both incarcerated and free. This contempt is underscored by the daily reminder that LGBT prisoners and their spouses have no recourse to pursue their rights within the California state prison system. While our domestic partnerships are acknowledged throughout the state, the CDC refuses to recognize such relationships, as if they are above the law. To add insult to injury, LGBT prisoners are denied overnight conjugal or family visits with their loved ones and any show of affection during a social visit carries the threat of total visit termination. What we see in policy is only an extension of the discrimination, abuse, and harassment

LGBT prisoners suffer daily.

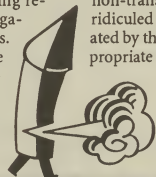
Transgender and gender variant prisoners, and their visitors, are singled out for the harshest treatment. For instance, although medically and psychologically necessary, transgender prisoners are routinely denied hormone medications, regardless if they had been on them before being incarcerated. They are subject to strip searches in front of non-trans prison guards, called names and ridiculed by both inmates and staff, humiliated by the medical staff, and denied the appropriate clothing and hairstyles for the gender they identify with.

California Prison Focus has been documenting these abuses for years and while we have continuously complained about them to the prison administration, our cries often fall upon deaf ears. Now the CDC wants to further

attack our rights by denying us precious visits with our loved ones who are in prison.

This assault on visitation affects all California families, both queer and straight and it's not too late to make your voice heard. We, along with other organizations around the state, are calling on folks to come to Sacramento, Friday March 8, to attend an 8 a.m. rally and 9 a.m. hearing at the Department of Resources Auditorium, 1416 9th Street. You can fax your opposition to the rules change to the CDC Regulation and Policy Branch at (916) 322-3842 by 5 p.m. on March 8 if you are unable to attend the rally. For more information, please visit our website at [www.prisonfocus.org](http://www.prisonfocus.org). ▼

The writers are with California Prison Focus.



## Guest Opinion



## LETTERS

## Clarification on pot bust

This is in regards to the February 21 article "Smuggling alleged in recent pot busts." In the second paragraph it was reported that DEA Agents dynamited the door of the Harm Reduction Center. That statement is totally inaccurate. The fact is that we did not use any explosive devices to gain entrance to the Harm Reduction Center. We entered the Harm Reduction Center using law enforcement tactics that did not put the safety of the neighborhood residents at risk.

In the sixth paragraph, Asa Hutchinson is identified as the "drug czar." Mr. Hutchinson is the administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration, appointed by President Bush last year. The director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, known as the drug czar, is Mr. John P. Walters.

The *San Francisco Examiner* reported in its February 13 edition that we had used dynamite to enter the marijuana buying club. I called the reporters and wrote e-mails to them and their editors telling them the same thing I'm telling you. To this date they have not corrected their story, nor acknowledged my concerns for accuracy in reporting. I hope your paper prints accurately how we gained entrance to the Harm Reduction Center.

Richard Meyer, Public Information Officer  
Drug Enforcement Administration  
San Francisco Field Division

## Thanks to PRC benefit supporters

Thank you to everyone who donated their time in putting together last month's "URGE: a Valentine's Benefit for Positive Resource Center." The amazingly talented Precious Moments and Eric Whitney, Juanita More, Pippi Lovestocking and Donna Sachet rocked the stage. DJs Kevin McKee, Pinky Ring, Jeff Chandler, and Victor Antonetti tore up the dance floor. A big thanks goes out to Mike and Daniel at the Stud for all of their assistance.

We urge everyone to support the local businesses that supported this event. Joie de Vivre Hotels, WorldWare, Gold's Gym, IXIA, Prism Salon, Castro Village Wine Co., Urban Eyes Optometry, Vibrant Health, A Taste of Leather and restaurants 2223, Home, and Luna Piena.

Finally, thanks to all of you who came and had a great time supporting a good cause.

Charles a'Court, Brian Basinger, Taylor Bayer,  
Santiago Salcido  
San Francisco

## Thanks from Chorus

I wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you to the *Bay Area Reporter* for publishing Adam Sandel's fine articles about our events ("Home for the Holidays" in December, and the February 21 article about "Giving Back" starring Carol Channing). With these being such difficult economic times, especially for nonprofit organizations, we really do appreciate all the support you give us.

Dr. Kathleen McGuire  
Artistic Director and Conductor  
San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus

## Lucky to be here

I just found myself looking through the dozens of e-mails I received in conjunction with my neck surgery on January 18. Many were sent to me prior to the operation and many after I returned home on January 22. They all contained best wishes to me and many indicated they would be saying a prayer or lighting a candle or some other gesture to help me through the event and come out of it fully recovered and out of the pain I had been enduring for the past year. Many offered their assistance after my return home.

I am realizing just how lucky I am to be living in San Francisco and to have so many caring friends. A good number of the e-mails came from my friends within the leather community, and for this I am truly grateful. For those reading this letter who may be interested in becoming involved in San Francisco's leather community, I can only say, "go for it." It is a community of loving and caring individuals who take care of their brothers and sisters and others without hesitation. All one has to do is to become involved in whatever manner that works. For me, I found many new friends by simply going out and getting involved, whether it was at beer/soda benefits or other fundraisers. I am also glad that I was able to open myself up to entering the San Francisco Leather Daddy's Boy contest in September 2000 at the age of 52. And I won!

I've lived in San Francisco since June 15, 1978. It was a time before AIDS, and I was, indeed, part of those extremely wild days. Animals, a sex club on 6th Street between Market and Mission, was one of my favorite places to go because it was so trashy and wild. Early Sunday mornings might find me at the Balcony on Market or the End Up. Of course, during the first six months here there was the Jim Jones Guyana mass suicide/murder and then the murder of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk. For a while I was wondering just what sort of a place I had

moved to. But I am so thankful I stayed here and am able to be writing this letter some 24 years later.

In closing, I do want to mention one special person. My lover from 1994-1998, and a very close friend since then, Sunny Fisher has helped me tremendously before and after my operation. I am so thankful for all he has done to help me during this event in my life. Sunny, thank you for all you've done!

Bob Dern  
San Francisco

## Unsung hero remembered

Another unsung hero has left our midst - one whose name if not face should be known to all in the community, until at least the next census.

Allow me to explain.

Wendell Robinson and I met when we were both hired as recruiting assistants for the 2000 census. At one point of the operation, we were the only two "RAs" left on the payroll for both San Francisco and San Mateo counties under our manager Yolanda Lopez (another unsung heroine). So you may say the three of us worked long and well together.

Due to Wendell's expert knowledge and understanding of numbers and statistics, and his desire to arrive at the best possible complete count for the county (which affects the allocation of services, funding, and representation for the next 10 years), regardless of personal politics; his work and study helped Yolanda lay the ground work for recruiting and his numbers back up these plans. Indeed, I recall one of her early reports to the regional head office was met with resounding approval and was sent to the other area managers as an example.

Wendell and I also tried to make sure that, along with the communities of color, the LGBT community were not left out in the final count, nor in the area of jobs, especially the management positions. He suggested, and I worked with him, to rally for interest and support for a town hall meeting for the LGBT community. Sadly, it was met with lukewarm or indifferent reception by the many leaders of the LGBT community (the only group to show support was PFLAG) and it never happened - as it did in the communities of color. Maybe, if it did, we would not be faced with a boundary line down Castro Street today.

As I have moved away from San Francisco, I was unable to be with him for his last days. Please join me now to express our thanks and good-byes by lighting a candle for Wendell Robinson - as he lit one for us.

M.J. Talbot  
Hilo, Hawaii

## Joan Rivers wannabes?

Obviously, I was at a different show on February 22 at the Castro Theatre than Mr. Friedman and Ms. Wren [*Out There*, February 28]. The "Viva Ann-Margret!" event was a great night - a loving tribute to a great star and a living legend. As far as I know, it's the only Huestis event that has been sold-out. The crowd loved it and everyone knew she was going to be arriving late as she was performing in *Whorehouse* at the Golden Gate Theatre. There were fans from across the country that came for the event.

No, this wasn't a high-camp-send-off evening. No, it wasn't Stella Stevens at *The Nutty Professor* evening "dishing" about every star she hated or screwed. No it wasn't Stella Stevens at *The Poseidon Adventure* event dishing about every star she hated or screwed. No, it wasn't Barbara Parkins at *The Valley of the Dolls* event dishing about every star in the film. This was a tribute to a legend.

Ann-Margret is a "lady." Being a fan for 40 years, I've never heard her say an unkind remark about anyone. Having met her I know she's kind, loving, and as beautiful within as she is outwardly.

You know, I think I'm just going to stop reading *Out There*. Roberto Friedman and Imperial Margie Wren are both Joan Rivers wannabes. Sorry girls, the closest you are gonna come is Melissa Rivers II and Melissa Rivers III. Oh, wait, sadly, Joan Rivers's beloved dog died last year - she's probably looking for a few new "bitches." You fit the bill perfectly!

Charlie Wolfe  
San Francisco

## Front row filled

Viva Ann-Margret for a terrific evening. No vivas for the Castro Theatre organization. I was seventh in line with a balcony ticket arriving at 6 p.m. My intent was front-row balcony seats for three others and myself. My first complaint was being treated somewhat like a second-class citizen as the main floor ticket-holders were granted admission first. This added another 20 minutes or so to the waiting time. My real problem was getting to the balcony and finding the entire front row filled. Who were these people? They sure were not in the front of the balcony line. Perhaps they were friends, relatives, tricks, dates, boyfriends, or lovers of people involved in the organization? An answer would be appreciated.

Lawrence Snyder  
San Francisco

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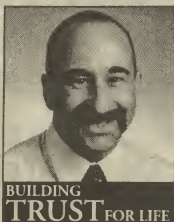
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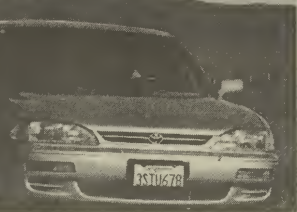
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**A time to celebrate**

by Gwendolyn Ann Smith

I've noticed that most of my columns this year have been frightfully upbeat. This one is not going to change that mold.

It's not like there have not been a lot of heavy things for me personally — issues with housing are looming large in my future, for example — and it isn't that there have not been a lot of very tough times for the community as of late. It's that I feel that we have to be able to survive a great number of difficult times, and are now able to have a moment to laugh and smile.

Sometimes we need to laugh in order to keep from crying — and sometimes we need to laugh the laugh of those who have fought against the odds, and are still able to stand in the face of adversity.

On Sunday I had the honor of attending the dedication of a very special skylight in our new LGBT community center. It is a memorial to those who have survived gender identity disorder diagnoses. I've already gone into some detail on this skylight in this column before, but there was something that struck me at the dedication.

It was not a time for quiet reverence, nor a time of tears and sorrow. It was a time for smiles and cheers.

A couple of years ago, I got into a conversation with a transgender friend of mine, where we ended up discussing how much the youth of our community are doing, and how they will accomplish things we never dreamed possible. He gave me wise words when he said, "With us, it was an accomplishment just to survive."

He has a point. Certainly plenty of people figured out that there was something a little on the queer side when I was in elementary school — and I paid for that queerness. I've dealt with getting beat up, and I've faced rape. I also got to go to a bad therapist or two in my youth, but was fortunate to not end up locked away for so-called reparative therapy.

As I entered transition, I've faced discrimination and harassment. I lost a job and found it remarkably hard to find another. I ended up losing some friends and gaining a less-than-cool reception from my family.

I've expected that someone would probably kill me for being transgendered, and I've considered taking my own life on more than one occasion.

Yet, I survived each of these. In

fact, I've done better than merely survive: I've grown as a person, and managed to carve out some happiness and success in this world. Better still, I know I am not alone in that.

It's worth celebrating.

It also goes beyond the individual. As I've said before, the transgender community is a community that is reaching a level of maturity. As a group, we've also faced remarkable difficulties, and any number of people who have tried to hold us back. Still, we have survived, even flourished, in spite of those who would try to stunt the growth of our community.

When I was growing up, I expected that my transgendered leanings were something shameful, a guilty secret that would only cause me pain. I certainly never thought that there would be any time in my life when I could revel in my own transgender self.

When I started to participate in transgendered groups, and began to share in that space, it seemed that we would always be a disenfranchised community, struggling to survive in the shadows of society. It was an impossibility to expect I'd see a community with even a small amount of clout in this world.

In fact, many felt that trying to create change was simply impossible: it was seen as our lot in life to struggle and scrape along. The ability to alter the status quo was so foreign a concept that it wasn't even worth attempting.

And yet, here we are. We are out there, and people know it. Our days of skulking around in dark corners are becoming history, and we're losing a lot of our guilt and shame over being ourselves. It is refreshing, and it is worthy of a smile and a cheer.

We're seeing this air of celebration all around us. It can be as simple as sharing a smile on the street, and acknowledging our siblings along this road we call life. It can be as big as the aforementioned skylight dedication, or this Saturday's "Some Kind of Queer" trans/drag/intersex/gender queer/etcetera party that will finish off the grand opening week at the new community center.

It's time to celebrate. We've gone from a rag-tag bunch that could barely get the time of day, to a group that has managed to get health benefits for transgender city workers, and is being actively included in organizations and events both locally and throughout the world. We've managed to



Christine Smith

step out of the shadows, and are the better for doing so.

Even more than this, we are also seeing the next batch of out and visible transgendered and genderqueer folks building on what those who came before them accomplished, and going in directions that were little more than "blue sky" just a handful of years ago.

Those who come after us will not be content merely to survive: their work will change the world in ways we are unlikely to even be able to conceive of. At the least, it is a mystery to me how far things can progress in the next decade or so, and I look forward to being amazed.

So raise a glass to yourself, and to the others in your community. Celebrate your survival, and celebrate all the good things that are yet to come. You deserve it.

**Addendum**

In my last column ["Politically transgendered," February 21], I brought up some unhappy business with the National Women's Political Caucus. Gladly, I can now inform you, dear readers, of new details.

I need to correct at least one item: it was not the president of the local NWPC chapter that made a comment to Democratic County Central Committee candidate Theresa Sparks: it was likely another person with the NWPC. The organization has also indicated that it typically makes the same statement with all potential endorsees.

The NWPC also made it clear that it saw Sparks as a very worthy candidate, and she was indeed eligible for an endorsement. Nevertheless, she was not chosen for an endorsement from the NWPC.

The president of NWPC-San Francisco was also clear that the group welcomes candidates who are transgendered. I hope that members will indeed show that to be true the next time they have the opportunity to endorse a worthy transgendered candidate. ▼

**Honoring older lesbians**

Jane Philomeni Cliland

**F**ive older lesbians were honored at last Sunday's "Pat Bond old Dyke Awards" event in Berkeley. Those who received awards included from left, Alice Molloy and Carol Wilson, founders of Mama Bear's; Lavender Seniors founder Dottie Fowler; senior organizer Marion Abdullah; and Barbara Konecny, founder of Women Over Fifty and their Friends. The awards honor "great works of old lesbians who have not yet received recognition," according to organizers.



# God wants us to vote Republican?

by Wayne Friday

No sooner had the U.S. House of Representatives completed passing a campaign finance bill that took aim at plugging a major source of special interest money, than we learn that the House is now considering another measure that could open up a new pipeline from a most unlikely source: the nation's churches. Capitol Hill analysts claim that the bill, sponsored by Representative **Walter B. Jones** (R-North Carolina), would actually allow churches to endorse candidates and spend money collected from their parishioners to help elect those candidates.

The passage of the proposed bill would create a vast change from current law that says churches may address political issues and invite politicians to speak, but they currently risk their tax-exempt status if

they actually call for a candidate's election or defeat. The proposed Jones bill, called the House of Worship Political Speech Protection Act, has already garnered 112 co-sponsors — all Republicans — and includes major GOP figures like House Majority Leader **Richard Armitage**, the anti-gay Texan who once called openly gay Congressman **Barney Frank** (D-Massachusetts) "Barney Fag" on the House floor, as well as fellow Texan Representative **Tom DeLay**, the GOP majority whip.

Jones says with a straight face and all that the bill is not intended to actually affect campaign finance. "This is strictly a speech issue; it does nothing but maybe say 'George Bush is pro-life, while Al Gore (or whoever) is pro-choice.'"

However, the lawyer who drafted the bill, **Colby May**, the director of the Washington office of the American Center for Law and Justice, a nonprofit law firm active in conservative political causes, said it would allow a church to spend money on political campaigns as long as the spending did not amount to a "substantial part" of the church's entire activities.

The Internal Revenue Service and the courts have interpreted similar language in a related portion of the tax code to allow nonprofit groups to spend anywhere from 5 percent to 20 percent of their revenue for lobbying. Should the bill become law, experts say, churches could endorse candidate X, and "endorse" means they could engage in distributing voter information about candidate X, distribute bumper stickers and the like that are all about candidate X, and so on.

The Jones bill is pending in the House Ways and Means Committee and a hearing is scheduled by the GOP-controlled House possibly as early as next month, perhaps in conjunction with a similar one offered by another Republican, Representative **Philip M. Crane** of Illinois. Campaign finance experts from both parties predict that if the Jones bill gets through the House, it would likely face stiff opposition in the Senate.

Every election season, the Washington-based group Ameri-

cans United for Separation of Church and State sends letters reminding churches, synagogues, and mosques that they are not allowed to make political endorsements, and warning that violators risk losing their tax-exempt status. Current law does, however, allow religious leaders to speak from their pulpits about political issues, such as abortion, and many do so forcefully.

The conservative American Center for Law and Justice, the major force behind the Jones-sponsored bill, lists among its board members television evangelist **Pat Robertson**; others supporting the Jones bill include conservative religious leaders such as **James C. Dobson** of Focus on the Family, **D. James Kennedy** of Coral Ridge Ministries, and **Richard D. Land** of the Southern Baptist Convention, as well as Rabbi **Daniel Lapin** of Toward Tradition.

Despite a seeming groundswell among Republican congressmembers for the Jones legislation, many others, including even some "moderate" Republicans, fear that allowing a house of worship to back candidates without risking its tax-exempt status would open a "gigantic new loophole for funding candidates without public scrutiny."

## Politics and people

By the time you read this you likely will know who Tuesday's winners and losers are (see election story on page 3), but the race for public defender got downright nasty, and the race for the Democratic nomination in the 13th Assembly District also got a bit rough. **Mark Leno's** supporters had signs around town reading: "6,019 missed votes — where was **Harry Britt**?" (referring to Britt's missed board votes) while the Britt people had signs claiming that Leno was blaming Harry Britt for everything — even the 1906 earthquake (come on, now, both Britt and I are old, but neither of us had anything to do with that earthquake, but then again ...). Both Britt and his chief supporter, one-time Leno friend **Carole Migden**, reportedly refused to speak to longtime AIDS/political activist **Cleve Jones** on Castro Street last Saturday (seems Jones came in from his Palm Springs home to campaign for Leno). Hey, can't we all just get along?

More backbiting: Back to Castro Street where Carole Migden, the termed-out incumbent assemblywoman, was spotted surrounded by Britt supporters wearing red shirts and engulfed in dozens of red balloons, prompting an onlooker sitting at the bar in the Twin Peaks to snap biting that, "Carole looks a bit uneasy surrounded by all that red — I thought green (as in money) was her favorite color." Tsk, tsk, and the world goes on.

Meanwhile, **Holli Thier** "don't vote for me, vote for Harry" Thier finally revealed what her shadow campaign was really all about when she appeared with Britt on the steps of City Hall last week imploring anyone who was listening that, "I hope you vote for me, but if you don't, please vote for Harry." While her campaign seemed



Holli Thier

stalled in last place according to polls before Tuesday's vote, Thier's statement was nevertheless a momentum-busting moment for her supporters. Thier insisted that she wasn't dropping out of the race and her comment was made just before she sent out a piece of direct mail last weekend urging voters to elect her. Go figure.

Word from Sacramento is that several Republicans are already looking at Senator **Barbara Boxer's** seat in 2004, led by popular Representative **Mary Bono** (Palm Springs), one of the GOP stars on the campaign fundraising circuit; others looking at a possible run against Boxer include Representative **Darrell Issa** (San Diego), Representative **Chris Cox** (Orange County), Representative **Doug Ose** (Red Bluff), and Representative **David Dreier** (Covina). National Republicans clearly see Boxer as being vulnerable in 2004 as a recent Field Poll revealed that only 45 percent of California voters approve of her performance in the Senate. To be sure, Boxer has had the good fortune of having run twice in years when Democrats were doing extraordinarily well and the Republicans doing badly, but the senator from Marin should never be underestimated when it comes to campaigning, either.

In Washington state, for the first time, the legislative phone directory for state House members in Olympia lists the same-sex partner of a gay representative. Representative **Ed Murray** of Seattle asked that his partner, **Michael Shiosaki**, be listed because the relationship deserves the same recognition as marriage; two other openly gay legislators didn't list anyone.

And in Spokane, Washington, Gonzaga University president the Reverend **Robert Spitzer** has banned the play *The Vagina Monologues* from campus. He said that it's not an issue of censorship but whether Gonzaga should associate with groups that oppose Catholic doctrines. The school's Women's Studies Club is performing the play this week in a hotel ballroom.

Finally, my "quote of the week" comes from the same Bill Simon, the "only true conservative Republican" (his words, not ours) in Tuesday's race — when a top Simon campaign aide, **Bob Taylor**, told Simon a couple of weeks ago that during the campaign home stretch, he (Taylor) wouldn't be letting the candidate out of his sight and promising to "stick to you like glue." Simon drolly responded: "OK, fine. But no sex." And how was your week? ▼

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# The myth of a transgender Stonewall

by Dale Carpenter

The recent death of Sylvia Rivera, an activist drag queen who threw quarters at the police during the Stonewall riot, has prompted much guilt-laden commentary about how the gay civil rights movement has pushed aside "the people who started it all." The commentary is wrong as a matter of history and unsupported as a matter of policy.

Here is the standard story: "On the night of June 28, 1969, the New York City police raided the Stonewall Inn, a bar that included a mix of drag queens and lesbians. Led by the drag queens, the patrons fought back, igniting the gay civil rights movement. Yet the new movement soon became overly image-conscious and pushed these brave heroes to the back of the bus. It's high time we repay our debt by fully including transgender issues in gay causes, including proposed legislation."

This fictionalized account of Stonewall and its aftermath has been repeated so many times by gay and transgender activists it now goes almost unquestioned. Typical of the genre is a recent *Village Voice* column by Riki Wilchins, executive director of GenderPAC. Wilchins describes the Stonewall Inn in 1969 as a "sanctuary" for "gender queers," who were "unwelcome at the city's tonier gay bars."

Wilchins asserts Rivera "helped [give] birth" to the gay movement at Stonewall. Similarly, in his book *The Gay Metropolis*, Charles Kaiser says Stonewall was "sparked by drag queens." Despite these contributions, transgender causes are now excluded from the movement because, as Wilchins puts it, gay organizations are "determined to project an image of normalcy."

This is politics-by-guilt-trip, and it has been undeniably effective in redirecting many gay groups' priorities. The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force has even withdrawn its support of the only federal legislation that would prohibit anti-gay employ-

ment discrimination because the bill does not include "gender identity" within its protections.

The standard tale is error piled on error. First, it exaggerates the undeniable importance of Stonewall as a catalytic event. As the careful work of numerous historians has demonstrated, there was an active gay civil rights effort under way long before Stonewall. Gay activists had organized the Mattachine Society in Los Angeles in 1950, and in other cities later; had supported openly gay candi-

dates for public office; had fought the closing of gay bars; had founded a national magazine, the *Advocate*; had marched in front of the White House for equal rights; and had picketed businesses that discriminated against gays.

Outside of New York, according to Stephen Murray in his book *American Gay*, gay activists initially paid little attention to Stonewall. Even in New York, a police raid on a bar called the Snake Pit later in the summer of 1969 generated more organizing than Stonewall did. The founding of the Gay Liberation Front followed the Snake Pit raid, not Stonewall.

Only through the annual Pride parade commemorations that began to spread significantly in the mid-1970s did Stonewall take on the singular importance in gay history it now enjoys. At the time it happened, however, the event simply did not carry the incredible motivating force we now attach to it.

Second, the centrality of transgenders to Stonewall is probably exaggerated. It is wrong to characterize the Stonewall Inn as having been a sanctuary for genderqueers, as Wilchins and others do. Murray writes that "men familiar with the milieu then insist that the Stonewall clientele was middle-class white men and that very few drag queens or dykes or nonwhites were ever allowed admittance."

But don't take Murray's word for it, consider what Sylvia Rivera herself told the historian Eric Marcus for his book, *Making History*: "The Stonewall was-

n't a bar for drag queens. Everybody keeps saying it was. ... If you were a drag queen, you could get into the Stonewall if they knew you. And only a certain number of drag queens were allowed into the Stonewall at that time."

If Rivera is right, it seems likely the Stonewall patrons who rebelled that June night in 1969 included many (perhaps mostly) middle-class white males. A description of the riot as an uprising of drag queens may be more politically correct, but as history it seems partial. This criticism does not deny that drag queens participated in the riot. It only makes the point that their centrality to the event likely has been exaggerated, probably for ideological reasons.

Finally, these historical disputes have no bearing - either way - on whether "gender identity" ought to be included in gay civil rights legislation. Even if Stonewall was the single *casus belli* of the gay struggle, and even if transgenders were the only people there kicking shins and uprooting parking meters, so what?

If we learned the Stonewall police had busted up a meeting of gay white racists, instead of drag queens, we wouldn't say that should make us more attentive to the concerns of racists. These matters rise or fall on their own merits, not on the relative role groups played in distant and disputed events.

And speaking of the merits, drafting legislation is an immensely complicated task that involves putting together a coalition of supporters. Gay civil rights legislation would be stalled or effectively killed in many places if transgenders were included. The choice is often between a more inclusive bill that goes nowhere and a less inclusive bill that actually becomes law.

These are hard realities. We should not feel guilty because we want to make progress, least of all because someone is telling us fairy tales about our past. ▼

Dale Carpenter is a law professor. He can be reached at [OutRight@aol.com](mailto:OutRight@aol.com).

## Intern'l Women's Day events begin Mar. 8

by Katie Szymanski

Celebrated by women's groups, the United Nations, and countries around the world, International Women's Day on Friday, March 8 acknowledges the struggle for equality, justice, peace, and development worldwide and pays homage to important historical events like the sexual strike of women in ancient Greece to end war, women's suffrage, and the tragic Triangle fire in New York City that killed nearly 150 working girls in 1911.

Here in San Francisco, the community will honor women in a variety of ways this year. From March 8-10, an experimental performance series entitled "Sisters on the Frontlines" will celebrate the "beauty and resilience of ordi-

nary women," according to organizers, portraying daily struggles in the home, at work, on the streets, and in war zones. The performances will take place in four conceptual rooms so that audiences can intimately experience the energy of local artists.

Contributors include DJ Mariposa, performance artist Lucha, poet Just Mama, spoken word troupe Dhaia Tribe, and Loco Bloco's women bateria drummers. The shows are presented by the youth performance group Loco Bloco, the social justice art group Underground Railroad, and the human services organization Mission Girls, and held at the Women's Building, 3543 18th Street. Tickets are sliding scale \$5-\$15 for students and seniors and \$10-\$20 for others. Limited childcare is available. Doors are at 7

p.m. and the show starts at 8. Information is available by calling (415) 431-1180.

Also on Sunday, March 10, Radical Women will sponsor a Women's Day forum entitled, "Feminists say 'Basta!' to U.S. Foreign Policy," from 2 to 5 p.m. at New Valencia Hall, 1908 Mission Street, near 16th. The multiracial panel of speakers includes Palestinian American activist Therese Mughannam, Colombian feminist Monica Enriquez, community activist Amatullah Alaji-Sabrie, and anti-war organizer Toni Mendicino, all whom will discuss a feminist response to what they see as the United States' violent, profit-driven policies abroad. An \$8.50 donation includes an international buffet. For more information, call (415) 864-1278 or e-mail [rw-bayarea@yahoo.com](mailto:rw-bayarea@yahoo.com). ▼



# CARE makes cuts

by Matthew S. Bajko

The city's HIV Health Services Planning Council voted last week to cut its funding between 4 and 7 percent for all but two categories. The only initiatives to be held harmless from revenue reductions are its dementia program and a decentralized care program.

"Both are new this year. There was no point starting it up and undermining it. Every other program will receive the same cut," said Jim Mitulski, co-chair of the council.

The council's action will help to absorb a \$2.2 million reduction in Ryan White CARE funding from the federal government. The city will receive roughly \$33.5 million in Ryan White CARE Act Title I funds for fiscal year 2002, a reduction of 6.2 percent from the previous year. Most of the funding cut stems from a 10.3 percent reduction in supplemental dollars.

With contracts to be signed this month for those programs it funds, the council had to act quickly in determining how to make the necessary cuts. The council did consider making targeted cuts, but lacked the time needed to determine which programs could afford to be hit with a larger reduction.

"The amount of our subsidy is the amount of our subsidy. It doesn't tell us the size of the program. The program could be \$1 million but we only give \$150,000," said Mitulski. "In the end, we just cut everything equally. We did that in part because of the short time-

frame we were working under. We felt it was the fairest thing to do."

The cuts will affect more than 100 services, from primary medical care and housing to transportation and food, that numerous AIDS agencies provide to HIV positive people.

"I felt we had done our best work in what we call community health planning. All the stakeholders were there and we forged a compromise we can all live with," Mitulski said of the decision. "I balanced that with feeling anger and dismay toward our federal government that is putting less and less money toward AIDS programs than ever before."

As the various agencies now determine how to recoup the funding cuts through other revenue sources, Mitulski said the council not only must reexamine its priorities but become more vocal in advocating for funding. Finding that voice will become crucial over the next month as the

city considers a 10 percent cut in funding to the Department of Public Health to cover part of a budget shortfall this year. The Board of Supervisors and mayor will decide in April if the 10 percent cut will be required.

"The council has got to see itself as more than a policy making board in regard to allocations of funds. Now more than ever we have to see ourselves as an advocacy group," he said. "We have to show up at City Hall and make sure DPH cuts don't happen. We have to say we are going to work as hard as a city to preserve HIV services as we worked to build a ball park for our recreational needs."

At the same time, Mitulski said it is crucial the community also steps up its support, both politically and financially, for those suffering with HIV.

"We have to be giving more to our community-based health organizations. We have the money to offset these cuts," he said. ▼

## Leno leads race

◀ page 3

Assembly.

In San Mateo's 3rd Supervisorial District, openly gay incumbent Richard Gordon was easily re-elected.

San Francisco's term-out Assemblywoman Carole Migden won the Democratic nomination for a seat on the state Board of Equalization (1st District) and will be favored over her GOP opponent, Mark Bendick, in November.

Statewide, transplanted New York millionaire-businessman Bill Simon came from being in single-digit figures only three weeks ago to upset favored former Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan to win the Republican nomination for governor. The conservative Simon will face incumbent Democratic Governor Gray Davis in the November general election.

In other races of Bay Area interest, Oakland Mayor Jerry Brown and San Jose Mayor Ron Gonzales were both easily re-elected. ▼



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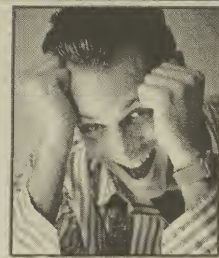
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# Israeli gay group turns to America for help

by Matthew S. Bajko

**D**eath for gays" read the black graffiti an orthodox political group spray-painted on the Tel Aviv gay community center several weeks ago.

For a moment, it seemed February would prove to be a month of only low points for gays in Israel. With their country consumed by violence, their one safe haven was now being attacked.

But then, amid the escalating conflict between Israel and Palestine, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon found the time to meet with a group of gay activists. He told the group he believes in the adage "Live and let live."

The February 26 meeting was only the second time in the country's history a top Israeli official had formally met with such a group. Last November, Israeli President Moshe Katsav was the first head of state to meet with a group of gay Israelis. While he didn't totally embrace homosexuality, he did comment, "I don't approve it. I don't condemn it."

To Etai Pinkas, chairperson of Aguda, the Association of Gay Men, Lesbians, Bisexuals and Transgenders in Israel, the meetings were landmark moments in the fight for equality for gay Israelis.

"By meeting with us, the pres-



Etai Pinkas

ident is giving the community legitimacy," said Pinkas, a 26-year-old lawyer from Tel Aviv.

As Israel's national gay lobbying group gains political prominence in its own country, the organization is turning to American Jews for financial and moral support. To help it raise money, Aguda established American Friends of the Aguda which was granted nonprofit status last year by the Internal Revenue Service.

"We have been working shoul-

der to shoulder with our American friends to create an American association that will support the Aguda and will help to bring together Israeli and American GLBT people," explained Pinkas.

During a recent four-city trip to the U.S., Pinkas wooed local and national leaders, met with various gay Jewish groups and spoke to several news outlets. Arriving first in Los Angeles, Pinkas then traveled to San Francisco, New York, and Washington D.C., where he was hosted by openly gay Congressman Barney Frank (D-Massachusetts).

"It is important for GLBT people to have support from overseas," said Pinkas.

San Francisco resident Alvin Baum agrees that Israeli gays need American support. He left this week to visit the country as a sign of solidarity and to take part in the dedication of a new gay community center in Kiryat Shmona, near the Lebanese border.

"They don't have mass participation by a gay and lesbian public in a variety of institutions the way we have here in San Francisco," said Baum, who is openly gay and a board member of the San Francisco Jewish Community Federation.

Along with D.C. resident Stuart Kurlander, Baum helped Aguda form its American associa-

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Please see adjacent page for Patient Information.



**KALETRA™**  
(lopinavir/ritonavir) capsules  
(lopinavir/ritonavir) oral solution

**ALERT: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with KALETRA.** Please also read the section "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA."

**Patient Information**

**KALETRA™**  
(kuh-LEE-tra)

Generic Name: lopinavir/ritonavir  
(lop-IN-uh-veer/rit-ON-uh-veer)

Read this leaflet carefully before you start taking KALETRA. Also, read it each time you get your KALETRA prescription refilled, in case something has changed. This information does not take the place of talking with your doctor when you start this medicine and at check ups. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about KALETRA.

**What is KALETRA and how does it work?**

KALETRA is a combination of two medicines. They are lopinavir and ritonavir. KALETRA is a type of medicine called an HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) protease (PRO-tee-ase) inhibitor. KALETRA is always used in combination with other anti-HIV medicines to treat people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. KALETRA is for adults and for children age 6 months and older.

HIV infection destroys CD4 (T) cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of T cells are destroyed, acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) develops.

KALETRA blocks HIV protease, a chemical which is needed for HIV to multiply. KALETRA reduces the amount of HIV in your blood and increases the number of T cells. Reducing the amount of HIV in the blood reduces the chance of death or infections that happen when your immune system is weak (opportunistic infections).

**Does KALETRA cure HIV or AIDS?**

KALETRA does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of KALETRA are not known at this time. People taking KALETRA may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, and *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections.

**Does KALETRA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?**

KALETRA does not reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Continue to practice safe sex and do not use or share dirty needles.

**How should I take KALETRA?**

- You should stay under a doctor's care when taking KALETRA. Do not change your treatment or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.
- You must take KALETRA every day exactly as your doctor prescribed it. The dose of KALETRA may be different for you than for other patients. Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.
- Dosing in adults (including children 12 years of age and older): The usual dose for adults is 3 capsules (400/100 mg) or 5.0 mL of the oral solution twice a day (morning and night), in combination with other anti-HIV medicines.
- Dosing in children from 6 months to 12 years of age: Children from 6 months to 12 years of age can also take KALETRA. The child's doctor will decide the right dose based on the child's weight.
- Take KALETRA with food to help it work better.
- Do not change your dose or stop taking KALETRA without first talking with your doctor.
- When your KALETRA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to KALETRA and become harder to treat.
- Be sure to set up a schedule and follow it carefully.
- Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give KALETRA to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

**What should I do if I miss a dose of KALETRA?**

It is important that you do not miss any doses. If you miss a dose of KALETRA, take it as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose at its regular time. If it is almost time for your next dose, do not take the missed dose. Wait and take the next dose at the regular time. Do not double the next dose.

**What happens if I take too much KALETRA?**

If you suspect that you took more than the prescribed dose of this medicine, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

As with all prescription medicines, KALETRA should be kept out of the reach of young children. KALETRA liquid contains a large amount of alcohol. If a toddler or young child accidentally drinks more than the recommended dose of KALETRA, it could make him/her sick from too much alcohol. Contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately if this happens.

**Who should not take KALETRA?**

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether KALETRA is right for you.

- Do not take KALETRA if you are taking certain medicines. These could cause serious side effects that could cause death. Before you take KALETRA, you must tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking or are planning to take. These include other prescription and non-prescription medicines and herbal supplements.

For more information about medicines you should not take with KALETRA, please read the section titled "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA."

- Do not take KALETRA if you have an allergy to KALETRA or any of its ingredients, including ritonavir or lopinavir.

**Can I take KALETRA with other medications?\***

KALETRA may interact with other medicines, including those you take without a prescription. You must tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking or planning to take before you take KALETRA.

**MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA.**

- Do not take the following medicines with KALETRA because they can cause serious problems or death if taken with KALETRA: Dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine and methylexgonovine such as Cafergot®, Migrana®, D.H.E. 45®, Ergotrate Maleate, Methergine, and others Halcion® (triazolam) Hismanal® (astemizole) Orap® (pimozide) Propulsid® (cisapride) Rythmol® (propafenone) Seldane® (terfenadine) Tambocor™ (flecainide) Versed® (midazolam)
- Do not take KALETRA with rifampin, also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®. Rifampin may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood and make it less effective.
- Do not take KALETRA with St. John's wort (hypericum perforatum), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or planning to take St. John's wort. Taking St.

John's wort may decrease KALETRA levels and lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to KALETRA or cross-resistance to other anti-HIV medicines.

- Do not take KALETRA with the cholesterol-lowering medicines Mevacor® (lovastatin) or Zocor® (simvastatin) because of possible serious reactions. There is also an increased risk of drug interactions between KALETRA and Lipitor® (atorvastatin) and Baycol® (cerivastatin); talk to your doctor before you take any of these cholesterol-reducing medicines with KALETRA.

**Medicines that require dosage adjustments:**

It is possible that your doctor may need to increase or decrease the dose of other medicines when you are also taking KALETRA. Remember to tell your doctor all medicines you are taking or plan to take.

**Before you take Viagra® (sildenafil) with KALETRA, talk to your doctor about problems these two medicines can cause when taken together.** You may get increased side effects of VIAGRA, such as low blood pressure, vision changes, and penis erection lasting more than 4 hours. If an erection lasts longer than 4 hours, get medical help right away to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.

- If you are taking oral contraceptives ("the pill") to prevent pregnancy, you should use an additional or different type of contraception since KALETRA may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.
- Efavirenz (Sustiva™) or nevirapine (Viramune®) may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood. Your doctor may increase your dose of KALETRA if you are also taking efavirenz or nevirapine.
- If you are taking Mycobutin® (rifabutin), your doctor will lower the dose of Mycobutin.

**• A change in therapy should be considered if you are taking KALETRA with:**

- Phenobarbital
  - Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)
  - Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)
- These medicines may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood and make it less effective.

**• Other Special Considerations:**

KALETRA oral solution contains alcohol. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or planning to take metronidazole or disulfiram. Severe nausea and vomiting can occur.

- **If you are taking both didanosine (Videx®) and KALETRA:** Didanosine (Videx®) should be taken one hour before or two hours after KALETRA.

**What are the possible side effects of KALETRA?**

- This list of side effects is not complete. If you have questions about side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You should report any new or continuing symptoms to your doctor right away. Your doctor may be able to help you manage these side effects.
- The most commonly reported side effects of moderate severity that are thought to be drug related are: abnormal stools (bowel movements), diarrhea, feeling weak/tired, headache, and nausea. Children taking KALETRA may sometimes get a skin rash.
- Blood tests in patients taking KALETRA may show possible liver problems. People with liver disease such as Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C who take KALETRA may have worsening liver disease. Liver problems including death have occurred in patients taking KALETRA. In studies, it is unclear if KALETRA caused these liver problems because some patients had other illnesses or were taking other medicines.
- Some patients taking KALETRA can develop serious problems with their pancreas (pancreatitis), which may cause death. You have a higher chance of having pancreatitis if you have had it before. Tell your doctor if you have nausea, vomiting, or abdominal pain. These may be signs of pancreatitis.
- Some patients have large increases in triglycerides and cholesterol. The long-term chance of getting complications such as heart attacks or stroke due to increases in triglycerides and cholesterol caused by protease inhibitors is not known at this time.
- Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) occur in patients taking protease inhibitors such as KALETRA. Some patients had diabetes before starting protease inhibitors, others did not. Some patients need changes in their diabetes medicine. Others needed new diabetes medicine.
- Changes in body fat happen in some patients getting anti-HIV medicines. These changes may include increased fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast and abdomen (stomach area). Loss of fat from the face, legs, and arms may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.
- Some patients with hemophilia have increased bleeding with protease inhibitors.
- There have been other side effects in patients taking KALETRA. However, these side effects may have been due to other medicines that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Some of these side effects can be serious.

**What should I tell my doctor before taking KALETRA?**

- **If you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant:** The effects of KALETRA on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known.
- **If you are breast-feeding:** Do not breast-feed if you are taking KALETRA. You should not breast-feed if you have HIV. If you are a woman who has or will have a baby, talk with your doctor about the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that HIV can be transmitted through breast-feeding.
- **If you have liver problems:** If you have liver problems or are infected with Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C, you should tell your doctor before taking KALETRA.
- **If you have diabetes:** Some people taking protease inhibitors develop new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Tell your doctor if you have diabetes or an increase in thirst or frequent urination.
- **If you have hemophilia:** Patients taking KALETRA may have increased bleeding.

**How do I store KALETRA?**

- Keep KALETRA and all other medicines out of the reach of children.
- Refrigerated KALETRA capsules and oral solution remain stable until the expiration date printed on the label. If stored at room temperature up to 77°F (25°C), KALETRA capsules and oral solution should be used within 2 months.
- Avoid exposure to excessive heat.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

**General advice about prescription medicines:**

Talk to your doctor or other health care provider if you have any questions about this medicine or your condition. Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information Leaflet. If you have any concerns about this medicine, ask your doctor. Your doctor or pharmacist can give you information about this medicine that was written for health care professionals. Do not use this medicine for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not share this medicine with other people.

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# Bill Beardemphl

◀ page 1

drive radical political reform through social activities such as large-scale dances was to strike a decidedly San Francisco note – an insistence on the right to pleasure as a pathway to political change.

As he stated in a speech of 1966, “We must seek respect, but never respectability.”

Mr. Beardemphl went to the existing homophile organizations, the Mattachine Society and the League for Civil Education, but found them fundamentally unresponsive to the needs of the gay community. He assumed leadership of a group of people that in June 1964 founded SIR, the Society for Individual Rights, which became the largest pre-Stonewall gay rights organization in the U.S., with a membership of over 1,000 and a publication *Vector* that had a national circulation.

The money to launch this new organization came from the holding of two large dances in the fall of 1964, with paid attendance of about 500 at each. In a city that

frowned upon any public assembly of homosexuals, let alone any “perverse” public touching, these dances were thoroughly radical events, even more so in that the money raised went directly into funding political and social action.

In April 1966, SIR opened what has been called the first gay community center in the U.S. In the center’s large meeting room, regular Saturday night dances were held, with the first police liaison officer to a gay community in the U.S. in attendance. In that same space, SIR also held its annual “Candidate Nights,” which brought candidates for city and state office for the first time directly under face-to-face questioning by the emerging gay community. This flexing of political muscle sent the first openly gay delegate to speak at a national party convention in 1972 (Jim Foster, who was head of the SIR political committee). In 1976, an even greater feat occurred when same-sex felony laws in the state of California were finally repealed (after a wave of annual efforts started in 1968 by an early friend of the gay community, then-As-

semblyman Willie Brown).

And in a foreshadowing of the gay community’s proactive response to the AIDS health crisis, SIR created Check 33. Named after the public health clinic at 33 Hunt Street in San Francisco, this venereal disease outreach program became a national model sent to 33 cities and high schools. It was equally celebrated for its poster featuring Queen Victoria emblazoned with the slogan, “Even a queen can get the clap.”

In 1974, Mr. Beardemphl also co-founded and was publisher of the second major gay newspaper in San Francisco, the *Sentinel*, which operated until the mid-1990s and in its early days employed major talent such as graphic artist Chuck Thayer. In the same year, Mr. Beardemphl acted as leader of a key group of activists who took over management and organization of the June Pride Parade. These individuals gave the parade the form it has today, mixing politics with pleasure and featuring at its vanguard the celebrated women’s motorcycle contingent.

In the early 1980s, Beardemphl and DeLeon retired from the San Francisco scene, after two decades of activism. Moving to the Healdsburg area, they farmed live game, acted as restaurateurs, and literally built a home together where they lived and cooked and entertained friends until Mr. Beardemphl’s death.

In lieu of a memorial service, DeLeon has requested that donations be given in Bill Beardemphl’s name to the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society, 973 Market Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, CA 94103. The GLBTHS can also be reached by phone at (415) 777-5455 or by e-mail at glbthistory@aol.org. ▼

# LGBT Center

◀ page 1

memory of his friend, Dick Pabich. Pabich, a former campaign manager, had served on the center’s board prior to his death on January 1, 2000.

“I hope Dick is smiling down today,” Van Gorder said.

Alluding to past criticism that the center’s board was not as responsive as it could be to all who make up the widely divergent LGBT communities, Van Gorder and other speakers emphasized that the center was open to all. More than 20 nonprofit organizations representing virtually every aspect of the community will be housed in the center.

“We built this for all of you,” Van Gorder told the crowd. “Our commitment to diversity is absolute. We’ve consulted with thousands and the center was created for you. It was a blank canvas nine years ago,” he added.

Portland, Oregon resident Terry Bean, executor of Holmes’s estate, was also on hand. Holmes was the founder of Falcon Studios and gave money to various LGBT causes before his death in September 2000. His estate made a \$1 million donation to the center earlier this year that resulted in the building being named for Holmes.

“Chuck loved San Francisco very, very much,” Bean said. “He always wanted to give back and we felt this was a perfect way. We feel the center will make a difference for tens of thousands of people.”

Various elected officials offered welcoming remarks, including Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, Assemblywoman Carole Migden, Supervisors Tom Ammiano and Mark Leno, and Mayor Willie

Brown. Pelosi told the crowd that she helped secure \$450,000 in federal funds for the project, while Migden noted that she helped get \$1 million in state money for the center. The city put in about \$6 million, Brown said.

“This is a very, very meaningful day,” Ammiano said. “This building is more than glass and steel.”

Ammiano, who wore red shoes to the ribbon-cutting, said he was clicking them together three times, like Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz*. “There’s no place like home,” Ammiano said as the crowd laughed in appreciation.

Leno, who was co-chair of the center’s capital campaign before he became a supervisor, recalled how some people didn’t think the fundraising effort would be successful.

“When I jumped into the capital campaign in 1995-96, I was told it was not doable. We wanted it to come from the ground up,” Leno said in explaining the center’s plan of enlisting more than 1,000 Founders, who donated \$1,000 each. Over the course of the capital campaign the center also received sizable contributions from many corporations, including American Express.

Brown, whose support from the LGBT community has waned in recent months, nevertheless was warmly received by the audience.

“My job was to be the referee in all the disputes,” Brown half-joked, as he did step in with both sides during the debate over the Victorian. “The end result is just spectacular.”

Opening festivities continue through Sunday at the center, located at 1800 Market Street. For more information, call (415) 865-5555. ▼

# Castro stores

◀ page 1

lease expires. Nor do renters want to sublease a space for such a short period of time.

Even though he receives plenty of calls, Hannson said the size of the space is also a drawback for most callers.

“I must get three to four calls a week from people looking for 1,500 square feet,” he said.

Finding the right sized space was on the top of Glenn Gortney’s checklist as he scoured the Castro for a suitable space for Patelco. Gortney, the credit union’s manager of business development, spent a year searching for an address before settling on 2189 Market Street. AT&T Wireless is also planning on leasing space in the building.

“One of the attractive aspects of the new location is that square footage wise, it is not too large and not too small. Plus it is a very visible location,” said Gortney.

Another factor making the space suitable is the building is brand new. The only hassle the company faced was securing a conditional use permit to install two ATMs.

“We were coming into a new building which had less restrictions with getting the appropriate permits. We weren’t replacing a different use,” said Gortney.

First-time restaurant owner David Weiss also spent more than a year looking at spaces before settling on 2362 Market Street, the

former site of Under One Roof and the Names Project office. The 3,100 square foot space has been vacant for several years.

It comes with a conditional use permit previously approved for Long Life Noodle, which abandoned its plans. After signing the lease in January, Weiss boarded up the building’s facade and has been meeting with community groups to discuss his plans.

“I always liked that neighborhood. I think it is up and coming rather than deteriorating,” said Weiss, 53, who worked as a restaurant consultant for clients such as JohnFrank (now Home) and Pasta Pomodoro.

With Pottery Barn’s redesign at one end and the scaffolding coming down on the freshly-painted building at the opposite end, Weiss said, “That block is getting a great face lift.”

By August, Weiss expects to have his restaurant open for business. The interior space will be completely renovated, but the facade will remain the same.

While the new retailers may not all be mom and pop shops, having economically viable businesses is welcome said Patrick Batt, president of the Merchants of Upper Market and Castro.

“We have to be realistic. It is a world renowned destination but it is a neighborhood as well,” said Batt. “We would like to see a balance between small stores and large stores rather than a bunch of vacant storefronts.” ▼

# HIV Treatment Update

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# Taxes & HIV/AIDS: The tax man cometh

by Ramon M. Gonzalez,  
Client Advocate

The following is an occasional column compiled by the AIDS Legal Referral Panel on issues of concern to people living with HIV/AIDS.

Dear AIDS Legal Referral Panel:

About five years ago I was diagnosed with AIDS. I thought I was going to die soon so I stopped paying taxes altogether. (I used to set up Web sites on a freelance basis.) Fortunately I got excellent counseling and began taking good care of myself. And guess what? I'm still here and feeling great! But now the tax man is threatening to come after me for thousands of dollars in back taxes. Help.

Sincerely,  
Healthy and Harassed

Dear Healthy and Harassed:

Congratulations on your healthy condition — we love stories like this. As far as your taxes, don't despair because you've got several options. If you're able to work and/or have money saved up, you can work out a deal with the IRS, particularly if your tax liability goes back over a period of years. In fact, the older the debt is, the more leverage you have.

Of course, we're not advocating that you hold off on paying taxes so you can get better bargaining power. Believe me, the IRS is the last law enforcement agency you want to mess with. Just ask Al Capone. The IRS can levy on any

assets you have, including bank accounts, real estate, and stocks and bonds. They can also garnish up to 25 percent of your paycheck. And any tax liens will show up on your credit report. As Austin Powers would say, "Ouch, baby. Very ouch."

Your best bet if you're working and/or have money is to contact an IRS agent (and an agent from the Franchise Tax Board if you owe California state taxes) and request an "offer in compromise." This can consist of either a payment plan or a payment of a certain percentage of the total outstanding debt.

If you don't owe a large amount of money, the IRS is more likely to settle on a payment plan with you. You'll make monthly payments over the course of a year or more until you're squared up. But keep in mind that the IRS will charge you a processing fee for the plan and that your old debt will continue to accrue interest until you are paid up in full. However, this interest will decrease as you chip away at the principal.

The offer in compromise can also consist of you paying a certain number of cents on every dollar you owe. The IRS is more likely to agree to a lower percentage on older debts than newer debts. For example, suppose you owe \$10,000 from the past 10 years. If the bulk of the debt is more than five years old, you

might be able to get away with paying as little as 20 cents on the dollar. Remember that this is by no means an exact science and the IRS will always determine these things on a case by case basis.

If you're too sick to work because of your HIV or AIDS status (or for any other reason) and you receive SSI or SSDI, several things might happen. If you receive less than \$750 a month in total payments, the IRS cannot garnish any portion of your government benefits payments. However, if you receive more than \$750 per month, the IRS can garnish up to 25 percent of your

total check or the difference between \$750 and your total check, whichever is less.

If this happens, talk to the IRS and see if they'll put you on a "hardship list" for people who are disabled. If you have no money and are too sick to work, the IRS will put you in this "indefinite deferment" status and won't proceed with collection efforts. However, your outstanding debt will continue to accrue interest and maybe even penalties during this period. This way, if you're ever able to work again or somehow receive a substantial amount of money, they'll be waiting to pounce.

In order to do these offers in compromise, you'll have to submit financial statements on an annual basis if your payment program stretches over several years. You'll

receive a letter each year asking about your ability to pay. Also, if you're on an indefinite deferment status, you'll have to submit fairly regular proof of your medical condition.

And in case you're considering filing for bankruptcy in order to avoid paying this debt, forget it. Outstanding tax debts are not dischargeable in bankruptcy.

Finally, if you are self-employed or work but don't receive a W-2 form from any employer, you're considered an independent contractor. As such, you still have to file taxes when everyone else does, using a 1040 form and schedules C or C-EZ. And if you generate a net profit or income more than \$400 a year, you'll have to fill out Schedule SE to pay a self-employment tax.

You can call the IRS at (800) 829-1040 and the Franchise Tax Board at (800) 852-5711. ALRP may be able to help you resolve these problems so give us a call and we'll do our best to help. Good luck and keep taking care of yourself.

Since 1983, ALRP has provided free and low-cost legal services for people with HIV in the San Francisco Bay Area. ALRP provides direct services and referrals to HIV-sensitive panel attorneys. ALRP can assist you in a variety of matters, including credit and bankruptcy, insurance and employee benefits, wills and powers of attorney, landlord-tenant relations and housing issues, government benefits, employment, confidentiality, and establishing child guardianship. This article is not intended as legal advice for your specific situation. ▼

**Do you have any legal questions? Call ALRP at (415) 701-1100 or (510) 451-5353; or write: 205 13th Street, Suite 2170, San Francisco, CA 94103-2461. For specific questions regarding housing call (415) 701-1200, ext. 314. To find out more about ALRP visit the Web site at [www.alrp.org](http://www.alrp.org).**



ALRP Law

## Longtime ACT UP/East Bay member Earl Baldock dies

by Cynthia Laird

A bright spirited AIDS survivor for 17 years, Berkeley resident Earl Baldock died of a heart attack in Oakland's Kaiser Hospital on Monday, February 11. He was 61.

"HIV expanded Earl's being. The fear and suffering associated with his AIDS illness increasingly strengthened his feeling for others. That deepening consciousness evolved into activism," said Mr. Baldock's brother, Bob Baldock.

Mr. Baldock had been a member of ACT UP/East Bay for 13 years, joining the group shortly after its 1989 inception. In 1990 he co-founded the Berkeley Needle Exchange. At the beginning he was only one of two brave souls willing to face arrest by doing the actual physical exchange of the syringes, said longtime friend John Iversen.

Mr. Baldock also shared his artistic sensibilities, contacts, and abilities by doing the lion's share of work for ACT UP/East Bay's successful fundraisers, the silent art auctions.

In the late 1980s, Mr. Baldock joined the Kaiser AIDS Patients



Earl Baldock

Union. In 1996 he was the only East Bay Kaiser patient willing to speak out publicly against the HMO's refusal to provide viral load tests and human growth hormone to PWAs. Six months later, Kaiser agreed to provide these, and Baldock joined Kaiser's HIV advisory committee.

Mr. Baldock was well read and he traveled extensively. He was quite aware of the inequities of the world, his friends recalled. His last

page 19 ►

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Funding has been made available through a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration and the Santa Clara County Public Health Department under the Title I of the Ryan White CARE Act of 1990 as amended.



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## OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization - and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

### Axel Eker

June 24, 1956 — February 23, 2002



months of his life.

Our dear friend, Axel Eker, died peacefully at home after a courageous battle with AIDS. Axel is survived by his mother, Ruth Peterson, who lovingly helped care for him during the last few

Born and raised in Sweden, Axel also spent two years of his early childhood in Liberia, Africa. Axel graduated from nursing school in Gothenburg in 1980 and worked as an RN in that city before moving to the US and settling in Los Angeles in 1982. His natural talents as a nurse and ever inquisitive mind led him to his career as a critical care nurse working in intensive care units in California and Kaiser Hospitals while in L.A.

Axel moved to San Francisco in 1988. The next year he landed both the apartment and job that he would have and love for the rest of his life. The apartment was in the Castro and, although at times it was crumbling, Axel was very proud of it. The job was in 4E,

the Trauma-Surgical ICU at San Francisco General Hospital. Axel's technical abilities combined with his compassion earned him the love of his patients and the respect of all his colleagues. His family on 4E mourns his passing.

Loving and sweet, Axel also possessed the most wicked sense of humor and could be quite naughty. He was a devotee of classical music, stamp collecting, and taking long walks around the city he loved. In recent years, Axel had been on a spiritual path and enjoyed discussing competing spiritual ideas in a continuing effort at self-knowledge. Intensely private, he took special pleasure in his many friendships. Axel's friendship came unconditionally.

Axel's family and friends send love and gratitude to Susan Shea, FNP, whose care provided Axel with one more year of life.

Axel requested that any donations made in his name be made to Shanti.

### Rachel Phyllis Jordan

Dec. 16, 1945 — Feb. 21, 2002



Rachel was a gifted architect earning a Bachelors Degree from the University of Illinois and a Masters Degree from the University of Utah.

Rachel could often be found at The Mint (her second home) singing in her own beautiful way. As The Mint's unofficial hostess, she immediately embraced everyone she met and enveloped you with her own brand of love and kindness. She was a loyal friend, teacher and tireless fundraiser.

Rachel's memory will live through her daughter Camille Jordan of Chicago, the many friends she made on her journey through life and especially her family at The Mint.

Your spirit will always be here. Your voice will always be heard. The sparkle in your eyes and the radiance in your smile will always be seen. Your love will always be felt. We'll miss you.

There will be a celebration of Rachel's life at The Mint, 1942 Market St., on Sunday, March 10th at 4 p.m. Come and celebrate.

### William Alfred Louthan

November 8, 1938 — February 8, 2002



Bill died at Veterans Hospital from liver failure on February 8, 2002 at the age of 63. He was the son of the late Mr. Glenn and Mrs. Elsie Louthan. He was born in Detroit, Michigan on November 8, 1938. He graduated from Edwin Denby High School in Detroit and then enlisted in the United States Army. After leaving the service, he moved to San Francisco in 1960 where he worked different kinds of jobs including waiter and bartender. He was bartender at the famous Red Star Saloon on Folsom St.

Bill took a sincere, caring interest in and was most helpful to his friends and homeless people. He lived a full, active and happy life. Bill is survived by his sister Lois MacLeod of Grosse Pointe, Michigan; four nieces and nephews; six grand nieces and nephews; and many friends. He will be buried privately beside his father and mother at the Forest Lawn Cemetery in Detroit. Donations can be made to Homeless Shelters and Hospices of San Francisco.

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### Mike McGee

A celebration in memory of Mike McGee will be held at the Hole in the Wall Saloon on Sunday, March 10th from 7 to 9 p.m. All who knew Mike are invited to come and share their memories. A raffle and auction will be held featuring many of Mike's leather items, framed artwork and a large collection of video cassettes. The proceeds are to be donated to the AIDS Emergency Fund in memory of Mike McGee.

We miss you Mike. RIP Mike McGee

### Peter Wharton

June 18, 1958 — February 26, 2002

Peter died peacefully at home on the morning of February 26th. His path through life was not always an easy one, but he faced it with courage, humor, style and more than a little grace. He leaves behind a wealth of friends,



Vanoni.

He joins his twin brother Andy, two souls together from the very beginning and now reunited as twin stars in the heavens. We wish him peace in this journey and are comforted by the fact that he is not alone.

There will be a celebration to honor the lives of Peter and Andy on June 18, 2002 at the home that Peter lavished such attention on and loved so dearly. Those wishing to make donations in Peter's name may do so to Women Against Rape, Hospice by the Bay, or the charity of their choice.

all of whom were his special gems. He is survived by his family, brother and sister-in-law John and Diane Crosby, sister Annie Wharton, step-mother Ann Wharton, and his partner of over 15 years James

## 17th Street

◀ page 2

A presentation and question and answer period is also scheduled.

"One of the things we hope is to get people more interested to implement the planning and funding necessary to create a real plaza that people can use," said Curtin.

CAPA will also host a daylong meeting this Saturday, March 9 at St. Francis Parish Hall to discuss community ideas for Octavia Boulevard and the intersection of Church and Market streets.

For more information, call (415) 552-1221. ▼



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# Size matters

by Jim Provenzano

Whenever you watch something as large as a football game, maybe you order a pizza. Maybe you're one of those people who call your guest a politically correct knee-jerk liberal for not wanting to order from Domino's.

Maybe you're wrong.

Domino's Pizza founder Tom Monaghan will need more than prayers to build a 250-foot-tall crucifix at the Domino's Farms of-

fice complex in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

The giant structure, which includes a 40-foot statue of Jesus, would require a zoning change and a height variance approved by township officials, and serve as a symbol of the mass stupidity and arrogance of pizza king Christians.

Monaghan first proposed what could be the world's largest crucifix last July as a landmark for his Ave Maria University.

Monaghan, 64, hopes to move an entire school from a temporary location in Ypsilanti to an office complex, William Koshelnyk, director of communications for the Ave Maria Foundation, told the right-wing Web site www.freep.com.

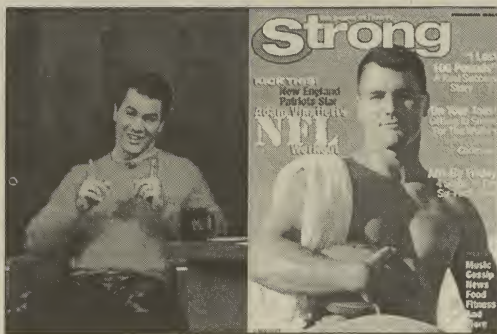
Monaghan, who sold most of his stake in Domino's in 1998, established the Ave Maria Foundation in 1983 to advance right-wing Catholic causes.

For Jesus, does size matter? Does he prefer the olive branch or extra olives? For Christian athletes, does size matter? What if they prefer sausage in their calzones?

## Adam's rib

Among the many hunks who caught gay eyes during this year's Super Bowl was the fuzzy-wuzzy punter Adam Vinatieri. The 6 foot, 200 pound place-kicker became the most easily hoisted hunk in the last minutes of the picture-perfect game.

Vinatieri was a star football player and wrestler in his Dakota



Adam Vinatieri measures up on Letterman, and as supermodel.

teenhood. He is also a solid member of the Association of Christian Athletes, but played football for a year in Amsterdam, home of legal prostitution, drugs, and gay weddings. How contrasting.

I think we all knew a few of those boys in school. Devout, determined to pray away those feelings. Then, suddenly, you bump into them at a disco in Akron dressed up like a Raymond Dragon party boy.

How many NFL star kicker born-again wear black leather pants with a red sweater?

Vinatieri, fresh on his extended fame ride, showed up on *The Late Show with David Letterman* and wowed the audience in porn star garb. He deserves his own talk show. Let him walk around shirtless. He could just kick balls. There's a solid target market of fans who'd tune in.

Vinatieri also posed nicely on

the cover of a fitness magazine that quickly became a collector's item the day he helped win the Super Bowl.

Although Adam works and plays for New England, he's married to a Florida pro football cheerleader.

I wonder what it's like to be in an, ahem, "bi-teamed" relationship. Wonder how often they're working on the same field per year?

Unfortunately, for all the gay ogling, the program you may have to look for Adam on would be the *700 Club*.

You can catch Adam hawking his faith at [www.thegoal.com/players/football/vinatieri\\_adam/vinatieri\\_adam.html](http://www.thegoal.com/players/football/vinatieri_adam/vinatieri_adam.html).

## De-throned

In sports, your team logo is important.

The Houston Astros smacked the disgraced Enron Corp. right out of their ballpark last week, buying back the naming rights for the stadium from the fallen energy trader for \$2.1 million.

Former Enron chairman Ken Lay threw out the ceremonial first pitch at the park, and feted then-candidate George W. Bush there at a ballgame during the 2000 presidential campaign.

The Astros said in earlier court filings that the name Enron Field had hurt its image because of its association with the company's "alleged bad business practices and bankruptcy."

Until the baseball club can find a new buyer for the naming rights, it'll just be called Astros Field.

"It's time to move forward," Astros owner Drayton McLane said of the de-Enronification of their arena. "I am very happy that we have been able to reach this settlement and put this issue behind us."

Now, about those Enron employee seasons tickets ...

Imagine a non-corporate-named ball park. How retro.

Yes, it seems things are slipping back to normal. Complaining is back.

Also in the name of old-fashioned good sportsmanship, author (*Stupid White Men*) and filmmaker Michael Moore asks the (p)resident to resign, in the seventh inning of a Texas Rangers game, I believe.

Hey, Macarena.

## Tuff fluff

The WWF and MTV began the second installment of their "Tough Enough" competition last week.

Some of the guys look promising, and some look like, well, former Advocate Men nude models. My favorite is Pete, a "male dancer" at a local club in New Jersey. Aaron stripped to his boxers in his audition tape, which you can view at: [www.mtv.com/onair/toughenough/competitors/aaron.j.html](http://www.mtv.com/onair/toughenough/competitors/aaron.j.html).

Previous competitors include nude model/stripier/dancer/blind date dater/playgirl "college man" Derek Russo.

It's good to see more family programming influencing young stripper/sports entertainers. It's important to keep a diverse skill set in these difficult times.

Olympic snowboarder Johnny Moseley of nearby Tiburon provided a jovial dudelike spark to *Saturday Night Live* last week. Aside from the absurd Olympics parodies, in one segment, Moseley played an affably prissy chorus boy with his best straight intentions. Mr. Dinner Roll wins my vote for gay-friendly sport come-

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## Sports Complex

◀ previous page

dy of the month.

### Gloverly

If you've read my interview with Gina Guidi, you know I respect the sport of boxing and boxing for women.

But Paula Jones and Tonya Harding?

The Penthouse-ification of female combat sports transcends even the most hetero-sympathetic among queers. Guys getting off on girls hitting each other is tacky enough, but these two might as well be on the claymation show MTV's *Celebrity Deathmatches*.

When the real people are so lost in the shallowness of their freak status, amid the likes of shows like *The Glutton Bowl*, I feel downright clean by comparison for lustling after a mere place-kicker.

Jones and Harding will compete in a supposedly-sanctioned boxing match during a one-hour Fox special on March 13.

"This is legitimate. We'll have a real referee, a real doctor, real announcers. To all the world, this will be a real boxing match," Mike Darnell, Fox's alternative-programming chief, told USA Today.

Jones and Harding, who will wear weighted gloves and protective headgear, will headline a three-fight card that will also feature a bout between Danny Bona-

duce of *Partridge Family* fame and Barry Williams from *The Brady Bunch*.

The Partridge/Brady bout should make for a more self-aware sense of promotion than the scandal-ridden gals. Perhaps this will lead to the remake of ABC's *Battle of the Network Stars*.

Imagine, somewhere, in a Viacom vault in Culver City, are videotapes of the likes of former football pro turn actor Ed Marinar, in Speedos.

Once again: Ed Marinar in Speedos.

I should have been a TV executive.

### Pieds a couture

Team San Francisco uniforms are looking quite snappy this time around. If you're gearing up for Gay Games VI, and want to march with the team at Opening Ceremonies and other events, it helps to wear the same snappy gear as the others. You'll want to get it to fit, since size matters.

The Front Runners try-on session is this Saturday, March 9, 10:30 a.m. at Stow Lake's Boathouse in Golden Gate Park.

The general membership uniform try-on session will be Saturday, March 16, from 3-6 p.m. at the Pilsner Inn, 225 Church Street, at Market. For more info, visit [www.teamsf.org](http://www.teamsf.org). ▼

For more gay sports superstars, visit [www.sportscomplex.org](http://www.sportscomplex.org).

## Earl Baldock

◀ page 16

political action, despite his neuropathy, cardiomyopathy, and emphysema, was to be arrested while non-violently protesting the pharmaceutical companies' lawsuit against South Africa last March.

He was well-known beyond the AIDS community for his engaging personality and his creative versatility in stained and cut glass, in pottery, and particularly in woodcraft. Playing piano was another accomplishment - mostly Scarlatti, Bach and Chopin - until neuropathy numbed his fingers and feet, at which point he concentrated more on orchid growing and gardening.

He constructed and maintained an elegant Japanese garden complete with a creek, a koi pond, and thousands of tiny frogs. Walkers behind the new Berkeley Bowl on a summer evening often stopped, startled, hearing the frog sound rising from the other side of a tall stretch of roses and wisteria hedging Mr. Baldock's craftsman-style house. This was his passion and his masterpiece. He built the entire house, not from a blueprint, but in organic stages, contemplating first each component,

musings over the responses of friends and relatives, then getting busy. He built a slate fireplace into his kitchen, flawless maple and cherry wood cabinets into his bedroom walls, a bathroom with a stand-up tile tub surrounded by orchids. He laid a black walnut parquet floor in his sunken living room, before building into the opposite end of the house a white maple tansu staircase. He painted a watercolor for one of the tansu shelves, then crafted a graceful Chinese lamp to properly illumine it, then made the only vase perfectly suited to display the flowers next to the lamp.

Mr. Baldock will also be remembered for his sense of humor, Iversen noted. Perhaps his greatest social gift was the ability to make others laugh. When told by a store clerk, for example, to "have a nice day," Mr. Baldock would dryly respond, "Thank you, but I've got other plans."

There will be an informal memorial gathering this Sunday, March 10, beginning at 3 p.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 1924 Cedar Street at Bonita, in Berkeley. Tax deductible donations may be made to Mobilization Against AIDS (memo line: Health GAP), 584 Castro Street #416, San Francisco, CA 94114. ▼

## Gay Israeli

◀ page 12

tion. He said Sharon's meeting with the group will have positive ramifications for how Israeli society views homosexuality.

"It is a good thing that the prime minister of the country says my policy is live and let live. Many people in Israel don't feel that way about gay and lesbian folks," said Baum, who hosted Pinkas while he was in town. "That certainly is a good development."

The Aguda does not only focus on Israelis, it also is taking a strong role in advocating for the rights of gay Palestinians. The organization has helped several dozen gay Palestinians win approval to live

in Israel with their gay or lesbian partners. Aguda is also petitioning the European Union to grant gay Palestinians refugee status.

"Gays in Palestine are hated by their families and Palestinian security forces. They are being jailed, tortured, and sometimes murdered," said Pinkas.

To continue this work and to fund the many other activities Aguda undertakes, Pinkas said he hopes America's GLBT community will stand behind and support Israel's GLBT community.

"It will help establish a stronger community in Israel while supporting general change in Israeli society," he said.

For more information, visit Aguda's Web site at [www.aguda.info](http://www.aguda.info). ▼

# BAY AREA REPORTER CLASSIFIEDS

## LEGAL NOTICES

### CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

#### SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY BRANCH DESIGN

**CHARRETTE.** The exhibition will be on view through April 25, presents architectural drawings and concepts created at a recent design event held in support of the San Francisco Public Library's Branch Renovation Program.

**Photography Exhibition of 20th CENTURY AFRICAN AMERICAN WRITERS** - March 10th Opening Day of "Portraits and Visions" exhibition at the San Francisco Main Library, 100 Larkin Street at Grove (Civic Center), San Francisco, includes an author lecture and slide show with photographer LYNDIA KOOLISH from 2:00 to 3:00PM in the Koret Auditorium PLUS a reception and book signing from 3:30 to 4:30 PM in the Latino/Hispanic Community Meeting Room. The exhibition will be on view in the Jewett Gallery from March 10 to April 28. All events at the San Francisco Public Library are free and open to the public. For information: (415) 557-4277.

#### CITYWATCH: San Francisco Government Cable Channel 26

During the month of March, tune in to CityWatch Board of Supervisors Budget Committee Hearings: March - June 15, the Board will convene special Budget committee hearings on the 2nd, 3rd & 4th Tuesdays of the month. CityWatch will broadcast these meetings LIVE on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. For a complete listing of the Board of Supervisors' new committee structure, please visit the website at [www.sfgov.org/bdsuprvr/com.htm](http://www.sfgov.org/bdsuprvr/com.htm).

#### Please send comments to [citywatch@cisf.ca.us](mailto:citywatch@cisf.ca.us)

#### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Department of Telecommunications and Information Services seeks an Internet consultant to build and deploy an on-line service system enabling businesses and citizens to conduct financial and non-financial transactions with City government using the Internet. Financial transactions include paying parking tickets. Non-financial transactions include viewing real property records. The complete RFP package is posted at: "<http://sunset.cisf.ca.us/pbids.nsf>". Click on the "Consultants and Professional Services" category at the bottom. Then click on Bid #DTIS 0204, "SFGov On-Line Services RFP". We encourage you to download the complete RFP package. If that is not possible, please call (415) 554-7600 to request an RFP package by mail. Pre-bid conference March 12 at Dept. of Telecommunications and Information Services, 875 Stevenson, 5th Fl., San Francisco. Proposals due April 1.

#### DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING INSPECTION

Come participate in the BROWN BAG LUNCH TALKS at 1660 Mission St., Rm. 2001 (2nd Fl.), Third Thursdays, Noon to 1:30 PM.

**Topic:** General Rules for Construction: Work Hours, Parking, Deliveries, Construction Noise, Safety, Licenses

**Speaker:** David Shue, Contractor's State License Board; DBI Technical Service Division staff

**NOTE:** Persons unable to attend are invited to mail their comments or questions, to request materials handed out, or to call and speak with department staff. Please contact Laurence M. Kornfield, Chief Building Inspector, Technical Services Division at 558-6205 for further information.

#### SAN FRANCISCO HOUSING AUTHORITY

Solicitation no. 02-660-qte-015 to provide market rent appraisals for the project base voucher program and public housing developments.

For more detail regarding this solicitation, please log onto the authority's website at [www.cisf.ca.us/ufba/prcman/current.htm](http://www.cisf.ca.us/ufba/prcman/current.htm) or fax your request to Gerald Leroy (415) 554-1258.

## San Francisco International Airport Cargo Development

San Francisco International Airport will hold an Informational Meeting to discuss the possible redevelopment by a third-party developer of existing cargo facilities in the West Field Cargo Area into a state-of-the-art cargo complex comprising approximately 325,000 square feet.

The Airport seeks parties with:

1. Experience in developing and implementing on-airport projects of similar scope, size, and complexity
2. Knowledge of the aviation industry
3. Knowledge and experience in the development of air cargo facilities
4. Financial capability to undertake such a project

Interested parties are invited to attend this meeting to be held at the Airport on Wednesday, March 27, 2002, at a time to be determined. Please RSVP with the number of attendees no later than March 15, 2002 by fax or email to:

Mr. Kevin Van Hoy  
Senior Property Manager  
Aviation Management  
(fax) 650.821.4535  
(e-mail) [sfocargodevelopment@flysfo.com](mailto:sfocargodevelopment@flysfo.com)

#### STATEMENT FILE NO.254892

The following person(s) are doing business as: Patent Law Offices Of Michael E. Woods, 104 Collins Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. This business is conducted by an individual signed Michael E. Woods. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 01, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/05/2002. **FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002**

#### STATEMENT FILE NO.254829

The following person(s) are doing business as: Group 41, Limited & Out With Friends, 41 Seward Street #3, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by a limited partnership signed Joel Micah Karr and Lylel Micah Dickerson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/14/2002. **FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002**

#### STATEMENT FILE NO.254856

The following person(s) are doing business as: Gentle Star Medspa, 1105 Bosworth Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94131. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Thomas R. Ellis MD Inc. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/04/2002. **FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002**

#### STATEMENT FILE NO.254860

The following person(s) are doing business as: Emeles Design, 203 Noe Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Philip Lyle Faggard. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 4, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/04/2002. **FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002**

#### STATEMENT FILE NO.254931

The following person(s) are doing business as: Panta Rei, 431 Columbus Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94133. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Alessandro Iacobelli, vice-president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/06/2002. **FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002**

#### STATEMENT FILE NO.254848

The following person(s) are doing business as: Thanh Trang Production, 876 Girard Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94134. This business is conducted by an individual signed Thanh Trang Do. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 4, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/04/2002. **FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002**

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE: (UCC SEC. 6101 ET SEQ. AND B & P 24073 ET SEQ.)

Notice is hereby given that a sale that may constitute a bulk sale of certain assets of Real Food Company, Inc. has been made or will be made. The name and business address of the Seller is: Real Food Company, Inc. c/o 2140 Polk Street San Francisco, Ca. 94109. The name and business address of the Buyer is: Fresh Organics, Inc., 1500 Kearns Blvd., Suite B-200, Park City, UT 84060. The seller currently operates five health food stores and is selling only certain assets related to three of those stores. The Seller will remain in business with the other two stores after closing. The assets being sold include fixtures and equipment, inventory of stock in trade, and all other business assets pertaining to three health food stores identified under "Stores Being Sold" below (and the assets being sold are located at such stores): Stores Being Sold: 1023 Stanyan Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117-3939 24th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114, 200 Caledonia Street, Sausalito, Ca. 94965. Stores Not Being Sold: 2140 Polk Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109, 3060 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. As listed by the Seller, the Seller has used the following business names within the past three years: "The San Francisco Real Food Co.," "The Real Food Company" and "Real Food Company". The Seller may also have done business under the name of its individual owners, Kimball Allen and/or Jane Allen. The Seller's business locations are at the addresses identified above. The sale referenced herein will be consummated at the office of the Sheppard Law Firm at 654 Sacramento Street, Second Floor, San Francisco, Ca. 94111, and the anticipated closing date is March 1, 2002. This sale is not subject to Section 6106.2 of the Commercial Code. This sale may be subject to Section 24073 and 24074 of the Business and Professions Code. The Buyer is not assuming any liabilities of the Seller. The purchase price paid to Seller includes allocated amounts to pay off Seller's pre-existing liabilities to suppliers and vendors. Any claims related to the assets being sold should be submitted to Seller at the address indicated above. Claims for items delivered on or after the Closing Date should be submitted to the Buyer at the address indicated above. This sale includes the transfer of liquor licenses, which are being handled separately by Bay Area Escrow, 2817 Crown Canyon Road, Suite 102, San Ramon, Ca. 94583. Claims related to liquor should be submitted to Bay Area Escrow and must be received prior to the date on which the notice of transfer to the liquor license is received by Bay Area Escrow from the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control. February 28, 2002. Buyer: Fresh Organics, Inc. By: Timothy W. Hinrichs, VP. **MARCH 7, 2002**

#### STATEMENT FILE NO.254975

The following person(s) are doing business as: USA Horizon Management, Inc. 1746 Post Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94115. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Osamu Horikoshi, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/07/2002. **FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002**

#### STATEMENT FILE NO.254973

The following person(s) are doing business as: Thomas Harley Bond Design, 1026 Folsom Street #11, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Thomas Harley Bond. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/07/2002. **FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002**

#### STATEMENT FILE NO.254995

The following person(s) are doing business as: Studio3Q, 182 Howard Street #425, San Francisco, Ca. 94105. This business is conducted by an individual signed Laura Grace Lee. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 30, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/08/2002. **FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002**

#### STATEMENT FILE NO.255032

The following person(s) are doing business as: Teutonic, Inc. 330 Townsend Street, Suite #109, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Chris Dolan, corporate officer. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/08/2002. **FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002**



## LEGAL NOTICES

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 254903**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: All Star Framing Co. 1082 Howard Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jennifer Torres. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 1, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/06/2002.  
**FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002**

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 540137**  
In the Matter of the Application of Kevin Paul Baguio. For change of Name. The application of Kevin Paul Baguio for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Kevin Paul Baguio has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to -Nedjula Pauline Baguio. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 12th day of March at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
**FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255066**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: D'Jon Notes And Cash Flows. 491 Marietta Drive, San Francisco, Ca. 94127. This business is conducted by an individual signed David Jon Wing. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/11/2002.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255154**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Texture. 114 Eureka Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Bethany M. Clark. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 13, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/13/2002.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 254900**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: foodserviceclosets. 568 Howard Street 3rd Floor, San Francisco, Ca. 94105. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Dolores Silva VP Finance and Admin. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 28, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/05/2002.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 254890**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: New Spaces. 741 Tehama Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Gillian Sophie Ellenby. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 5, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/05/2002.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255172**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Yummy Express. 683 Geary Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual signed Yu-Mez Han. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/14/2002.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255165**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Latker Design Solutions. 80 Uranus Terrace, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Craig Latker. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 13, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/13/2002.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255191**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Zwanette Design. 1777 Yosemite Street #115, San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by an individual signed Karin DeGier. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/14/2002.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255239**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Squat & Gobble Cafe #2. 1428 Haight Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by a limited partnership signed Issa J. Sweiden, S & G Restaurant Management LLC. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 1, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/15/2002.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255240**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Squat & Gobble Cafe #3. 3600- 16th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by a limited partnership signed Issa J. Sweiden, Squat & Gobble Cafe, LLC. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 1, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/15/2002.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255238**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Squat & Gobble Cafe #1. 237 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by a limited liability company signed Issa J. Sweiden Squat & Gobble Cafe, LLC. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 1, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/15/2002.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255257**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Young's Alteration. 2192 Mission Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Stefa Fan. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/19/2002.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255261**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Sense Of Place Design. 733 Frederick Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Julia Carpenter. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 19, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/19/2002.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 21, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255277**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: AcroSports, AcroSports Physical, Performance and Circus Arts, City Circus, Acro Sports. 629 Frederick Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Dorothy Huntington, E.D. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on November 24, 1992. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/19/2002.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 21, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255265**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Benfield Works. 899 Fulton Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117-1709. This business is conducted by an individual signed Mario Antonio Benfield. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 19, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/19/2002.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 21, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 254817**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Embellish. 800 Goettingen Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94134. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jeanette Monica Wright. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/04/2002.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 21, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255111**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Red Tiger. 2193 Mission Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Xua Van Tran. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 12, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/04/2002.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 21, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255369**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Botanica Yemaya. 1601-A Page Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Blair Whitmer. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/21/2002.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 21, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255646**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: The Real Food Company, Fresh Organics. 1001 & 1023 Stanyan Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Timothy W. Hinrichs, VP. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 1, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/01/2002.  
**MAR. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255353**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Beatrik Bags. 2948 20th Street #100, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Louise J. Bartlett. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 21, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/21/2002.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 21, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255399**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: USA Pallets. 1183 Shafter Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by an individual signed Oralla, Picazo. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/22/2002.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 21, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255029**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: A Designer's Influence. 95 Minna Street, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, Ca. 94105. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Peni Wilson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 8, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/08/2002.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 21, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255355**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Tal Collection. 3428 Balboa Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94121. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Lily Gin. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/25/2002.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 21, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255449**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Jeng Fa Si. 3140 22nd Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by a non-profit corporation/organization signed Chiu-Chan Su. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/25/2002.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 21, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 254667**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Secret River, Secretriver. 703 Webster Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Ronald B. Dennison and Richard L. Dennison. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 15, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/29/2002.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 21, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255578**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Moran- Lighting & Electric. 1139 Cole Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Timothy John Moran. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on April 30, 1990. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/27/2002.  
**MAR. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255599**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Zehabon. 210 Fell Street, #7, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Vidackovic Zeljko and Felic Senijad. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 28, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/28/2002.  
**MAR. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2002**

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 02-540172**  
In the Matter of the Application of Frank Guerra Medina for change of Name. The application of Frank Guerra Medina for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Frank Guerra Medina has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Francis Sebastian Medina. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 6th day of May at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
**MAR. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255645**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: The Real Food Company, Fresh Organics. 3939 24th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Timothy W. Hinrichs, VP. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 1, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/01/2002.  
**MAR. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2002**

## RENTALS

**3 BDRM VICT W/PKG.**  
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**E18**

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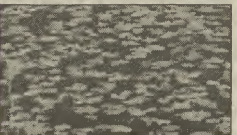
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**E10**

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**E11**

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Fulltime/live in housekeeper wanted for large home in the Caribbean West Indies. Private room (A/C & TV), bath and stipend included along w/ WC Medical. Prefer mature, responsible adult. Some cooking and gardening experience a plus but not required. Fax letter of application, resume to 340-772-9499 include e-mail. Position open June 1, 2002.  
**E12**

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**E13**

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**E10**

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## LEGAL NOTICES

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 540153**  
In the Matter of the Application of Intava Anna Phetsaya, Allen Bunya Phetsaya, for change of Name. The application of Intava Anna Phetsaya, Allen Bunya Phetsaya for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Intava Anna Phetsaya, Allen Bunya Phetsaya has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to -Intava Anna Wong, Allen Bunya Wong. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 29th day of April at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
**FEB. 21, 28, MAR 7, 14, 2002**

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 02-540166**  
In the Matter of the Application of Jeffrey Tar Genza. For change of Name. The application of Jeffrey Tar Genza for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Jeffrey Tar Genza has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Claudio Milano. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 2nd day of May at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
**MAR 7, 14, 21, 28, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255037**  
The following person(s) are doing business as:FTM International, Inc. 160- 14th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Joel Levine, Treasurer. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 7, 1997. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/08/2002.  
**MAR. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2002**

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE**  
To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is: KZ Tile Company. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at: 185 Berry Street, suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 1711 El Camino Real Millbrae, Ca. 94030. Type of license Applied for: 41-01 SALE BEER AND WINE EATING PLACE  
**MARCH 7, 2002**

**STATEMENT FILE NO. 255704**  
The following person(s) are doing business as:Tina's Laundromat. 636 Chenery Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94131. This business is conducted by an individual signed Patrick Sahagun. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 11, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/08/2002.  
**MAR. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2002**

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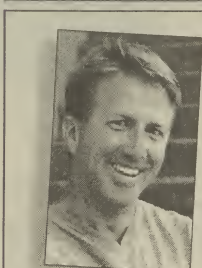
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## LEGAL NOTICES

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO ORDER FOR PUBLICATION OF SUMMONS OR CITATION**

**CASE NUMBER: FL 044400**  
Upon reading and filing evidence consisting of a declaration as provided in Section 415.50 CCP by Marjorie A. Williams and it satisfactorily appearing therefrom that the defendant, respondent, or citee, Greg Williams, cannot be served with reasonable diligence in any other manner specified in article 3, Chapter 4, Title 5 of the Code of Civil Procedure, and it also appearing from the verified complaint or petition that a good cause of action exists in this action in favor of the plaintiff, petitioner, or citee therein and against the action or that the party to be served has or claims an interest in, real or personal property in this state that is subject to the jurisdiction of the Court or the relief demanded in the action consists wholly or in part in excluding such party from any interest in such property: Now, on motion of application for publication of summons Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff(s), Petitioner(s), or contestant(s), It is Ordered that the service of said summons or citation in this action be made upon said defendant, respondent, or citee by publication thereof in The Bay Area Reporter a newspaper of general circulation published at San Francisco California, hereby designated as the newspaper most likely to give notice to said defendant; that said publication be made at least once a week for four successive weeks. It is Further Ordered that a copy of said summons or citation and of said complaint or petition in this action be forthwith deposited in the United States Post Office, post-paid, directed to said defendant, respondent, or citee if his address is ascertained before expiration of the time prescribed for the publication of this summons or citation and a declaration of this mailing or of the fact that the address was not ascertained be filed at the expiration of the time prescribed for the publication.  
**MAR 7, 14, 21, 28, 2002**

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## LEGAL NOTICES

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 540088**  
In the Matter of the Application of Freedom Wong, for change of Name. The application of Freedom Wong for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Freedom Wong has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Philip Wong. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 2nd day of May at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
**MAR 7, 14, 21, 28, 2002**

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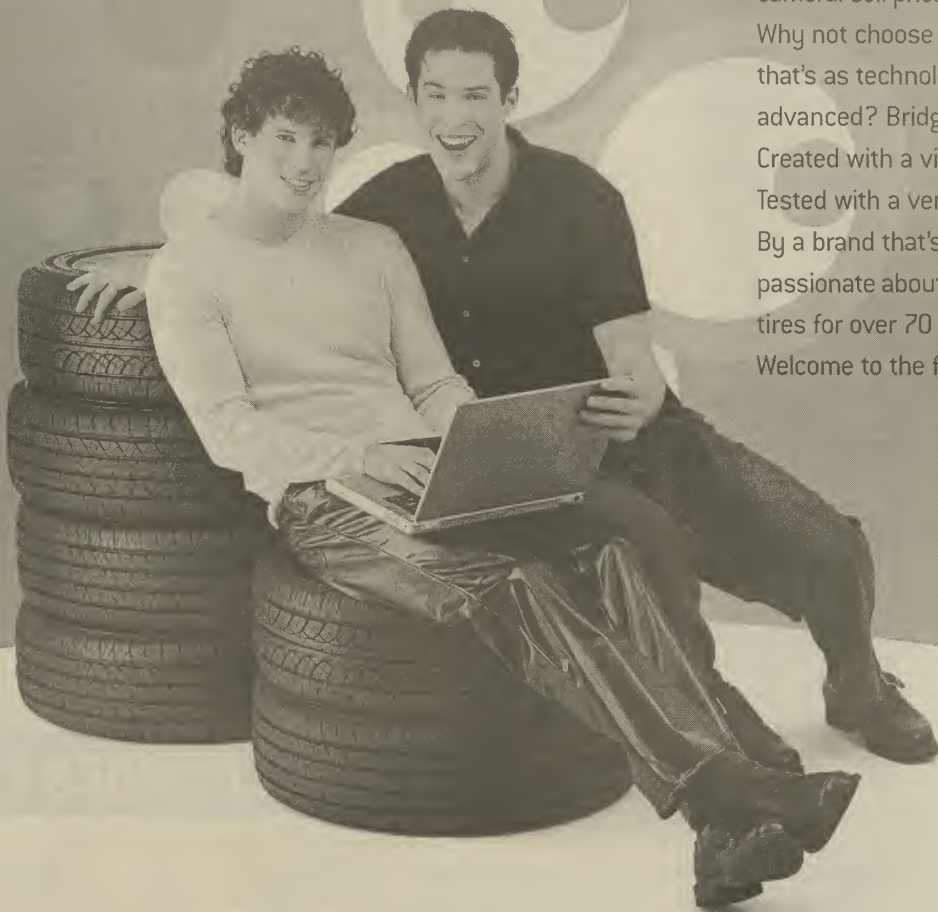
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The perplexing, passionate Mitfords  
'The Sisters: The Saga of the Mitford  
Family,' Decca, Debo, Diana, Unity, et al.  
page 34

Return to Wyoming  
'The Laramie Project' has  
its TV premiere on HBO.  
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She kissed a girl  
Het gals try lesbian love  
in 'Kissing Jessica Stein.'  
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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 32 • No. 10 • 7 March 2002

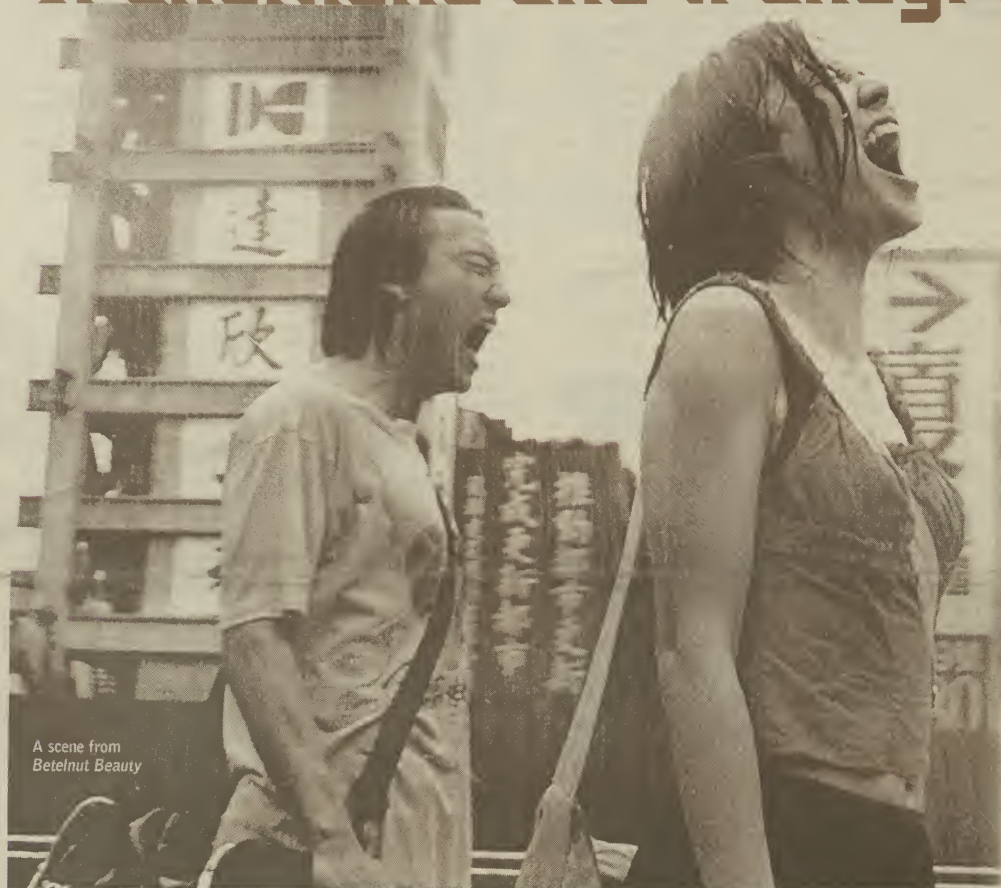
## Transitions and transgressions

### Twentieth Asian American Film Festival kicks off

by David Lamble

The Asian American Film Festival celebrates its 20th birthday year with an orgy of screen goodies: 135 features and shorts, in 43 programs from 15 countries, spread over 10 days in four different venues — the Castro (Cas) and the AMC Kabuki (Kab) in San Francisco, the Pacific Film Archive in Berkeley (PFA), and the final weekend at the Camera 3 Cinemas in San Jose (SJO). This year, a special emphasis is on highlights from the past 20 years of the Festival, with encore performances of such pioneering work as Wayne Wang's *Chan Is Missing*, a quirky exercise in three different film styles that put Asian American film on the indie circuit in 1982; *Flower Drum Song* (1961), described as "a wondrous white elephant of a Hollywood musical"; and shorts programs highlighting the early student films of now-established directors such as Mira Nair, Ang Lee, Philip Kan Gotanda, Justin Lin, Arthur Dong, Helen Lee and Valerie Soe. Queer film fans are well-served in portions of several shorts programs: *Drink My Pocari Sweat* (3/8 & 12, Kab), *Hit It or Quit It* (3/9, Kab), and *I Know Karate* (3/10, Cas).

The Festival kicks off with a very  
page 33 ►



A scene from  
*Betelnut Beauty*

## Gravity shift?

### The Jon Sims Center intends to stay course

by Mark Mardon

There is no center to The Center, yet that's where all the gravity is being felt — down at Market & Octavia, at the spankin'-new, oddly configured Charles M. Holmes Campus of the SF GLBT Community Center. That's where anything and everything having to do with San Francisco queer culture — art, politics, planning, sex education, you name it — is being sucked in by the allure of clean, well-lighted, reasonably inexpensive and way-cool spaces for shaping the next phase of GLBT culture here and afar. The main agenda at The Center? Make sure our community lifts up its gorgeous head and remains fair, honest, equitable, open-minded, all-inclusive, ever-enlightening, sexy and hella fun.

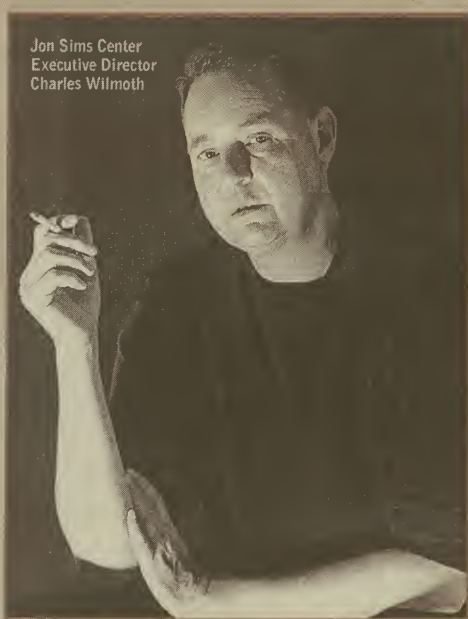
I'm here neither to praise the Center nor condemn it. It is, as the Buddha might say, what it is. Its per-

sonality is still being shaped. Time will tell. For the moment, what concerns me more is what's happening to those other centers of gravity, the older places where queer culture has been shaping up for a long time.

Centers of gravity shift, and one can never be sure where the next nexus will be. Today it's The Center, but yesterday it was the Jon Sims Center for the Arts, nearby at Mission & 11th; the New Conservatory Theatre Center, on Van Ness & Market; and Theatre Rhinoceros and Luna-Sea Women's Performance Project, both in the old Redstone Building on 16th St. near Mission. All of those places and more still exist, thrive, present queer art, and exert influence on the community. But will The Center suck out their air? Will they become passé?

To find out, I recently embarked on a journey beginning at the Sims Center, where I talked with executive director Charles Wilmoth about the state of the queer arts in San Francisco. I wanted to learn what the challenges are for his and other queer arts groups, how they're positioning themselves to attract audiences in a challenging time, and how people active in the arts feel about the big, classy, brassy newcomer in their

page 30 ►



Jon Sims Center  
Executive Director  
Charles Wilmoth

Paul Martin

SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS



by Roberto Friedman  
and the Lavender Lav

**F**ull disclosure: Out There plagiarized this week's column from presidential historian **Doris Kearns Goodwin**, who cribbed it from big-shot historian **Stephen Ambrose**, who copied it off a bathroom stall at the Library of Congress. So don't blame us!

We attended the gala opening party for the new gay community center, and, amidst a sea of tuxedos, chatted up or were chatted up by the following free spirits: grande dame of

Hayes St. **Marlena**, Frameline Festival co-director **Michael Lumpkin**, diva chanteuse **Donna Sachet**, world adventurer **Angus Whyte**, audience-pleasers the **Kinsey Sicks**, marijuana maverick **Dennis Perone**, scene photos **Marc Geller** and **Rink Foto**,

and other mainstays of this marvy community. We love the name of the **Charles M. Holmes Campus** — great if you're majoring in water sports and *frottage*.

Yes, that was *SF Chronicle* classical music critic **Joshua Kosman** who popped up at a convention of crossword puzzle enthusiasts in last week's *The New Yorker*. Kosman was excited that popstress

**Britney Spears** is now endorsing Pepsi-Cola, because her name happens to be an anagram for Presbyterians, and the soda is one for Episcopal.

That's almost as exciting as this correction from *Chron* last week:

"An anecdote that appeared in the 'Out of the Blue' column in the Travel Section, about a woman who became stuck to a toilet seat during a flight on SAS airlines, was false." An SAS spokesperson scolded the *Chron*, "The report is based on erroneous information."



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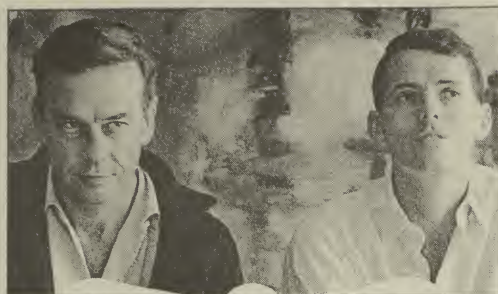
We remember reading the anecdote in question. An SAS flight steward somehow convinced a gullible business reporter that a woman had flushed while still atop the can, and the resulting suction created a powerful vacuum that kept the lady captive. We know a steward on the Seattle/Copenhagen run who probably floated the story.

Meantime, a **Frank Rich** profile in the *NY Times* magazine on gay former right-wing hitman **David Brock**'s new mea culpa memoir *Blinded by the Right: The Conscience of an Ex-Conservative* lifted a rock and found a gaggle of gay bugs scurrying underneath. When Brock threw a party at his Georgetown home, he had to forcibly remove a **tightly-righty columnist** "after he pushed me onto a bed, into a pile of coats, and tried to stick his tongue down my throat." Then there was "the closeted pro-impeachment Republican congressman who pursued me drunkenly through a black-tie Washington dinner." Oh, but don't self-loathing gay Republicans and their libidos always make one's skin crawl?

That particular issue of the *Times* mag was gayer than **J. Edgar Hoover** in a Maidenform bra. In addition to the gay GOPper follies, a profile of gay alt-rockster **Stephin Merritt** was



Stephin Merritt with Irving.



Partners David Jackson and James Merrill: Inquiring minds want to ouija.

topped off by a portrait of the composer of 69 *Love Songs* posing dourly by his bookshelves whilst he tenderly cradled his chi-chi Chihuahua **Irving** (after **Berlin**) in his arm. The *Times* doesn't provide much dish on SM's sex life, although an ex-boyfriend, **Future Bible Heroes' Chris Ewen**, does get to put in, "He's not good at small talk." We did learn from the feature that Merritt's band the **Magnetic Fields'** accordionist **Daniel Handler** and children's book author **Lemony Snicket** are one and the same chap. It's a small snicket after all.

## Fine spirits

In *Familiar Spirits* (Penguin paperback), a memoir of her friendship with great gay poet **James Merrill** and his partner **David Jackson**, novelist **Alison Lurie** describes visiting the pair's house in Connecticut, "awkwardly, with a child or two. That wasn't a good idea: the place wasn't designed for children, and contained too many fragile objects."

"Jimmy liked to tell the story of how, after he had reprimanded my oldest son, **John**, then four, for temporarily locking him out on the sundeck, John turned to me and cried, 'I don't like that man, and I'm never going to say that anything he has is beautiful again.'" Now there's a child who already knows how to break a queen's heart.

Much of Lurie's book centers on Merrill's and Jackson's devotion to the ouija. Merritt's epic poem *The Changing Light at Sandover* distilled years of spirit-catching at the board. But Lurie treats even the dark chapters of her friends' tale, Jackson's dissolution and Merritt's death, deftly

and with human insight. The encounter with her memoir has sent us in search of a few of her novels, *Foreign Affairs* and *The Last Resort*.

## Street of dreams

More than just a nostalgic amble through the pre-**Giuliani** 42nd St. sex-theatre district, novelist **Samuel R. Delany**'s wonderful double essay *Times Square Red Times Square Blue*, newly out in paperback from NYU Press, is an eloquent appraisal of all the good that can come from interclass sex camaraderie in places like the old Times Square. Delany describes and revels in the kind of casual but meaningful encounter you won't find in a Planet Hollywood.

"In the 42nd St. area's sex theatres since I started frequenting them in the summer of 1975, I've met playwrights, carpenters, opera singers, telephone repairmen, stockbrokers, guys on welfare, guys with trust funds, guys on crutches, on walkers, in wheelchairs, teachers, warehouse workers, male nurses, fancy chefs," and more!

"As a gentile, I note that this is the only place in a lifetime's New York residency I've had any extended conversation with some of the city's Hasidim." When they're not trembling before some uncircumcised Puerto Rican god.

The book is dedicated to author **Bruce Benderson**, whose manifesto *Toward a New Degeneracy* also extols the value and lost social landscape of the now-extinct Times Square. Delany supplements his own photographs of denizens and locales with some knock-out portraits of hustlers and bartenders by photographer **Philip-Lorca DiCorcia**. ▽

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# Broadway marathon

## 'Elaine Stritch at Liberty' is worth the trip

by Richard Dodds

**P**raise can be a dangerous thing. Too much of it can spoil a perfectly enjoyable event by creating pumped-up expectations that aren't fulfilled. That said, I don't think it's possible to praise Elaine Stritch's one-woman Broadway show too much. You won't be disappointed, no matter how many superlatives are thrown at it.

Seen during a recent theater plunge in New York, it was by far the standout in a seven-show schedule that included such heavyweights as the big new musical *Sweet Smell of Success* and the Royal National Theatre's take on *Oklahoma!* Not to mention a new Edward Albee play that takes a very serious look at bestiality among the upper crust.



Devise Winters

Elaine Stritch at Liberty

*Elaine Stritch at Liberty* itself is actually a play based on the life and career of Elaine Stritch that happens to have Elaine Stritch as its star. This is a beautifully written and staged tragi-comedy about a woman who embraced alcohol and self-destruction before finally wising up to her worth. It also features an amazing catalogue of songs that, yes, includes a full-throttle rendition of "Ladies Who Lunch."

Stritch is 77 years old and is

tearing up the stage. Edward Albee is only a few years younger, but he can still leave an audience with its collective mouth agape. In *The Goat, or Who Is Sylvia?*, the title figure is an unseen but real-life farm animal with whom a successful architect with a stylish wife and a gay son finds himself in a romanticized sexual relationship. Complications ensue, big time.

What to make of all this, which includes a brush of incest between father (handsome Bill Pullman) and son (humpy blond Jeffrey Carlson)? Maybe it's a study of taboos. Probably the goat is a metaphor for something else. It held my interest, and I can't wait to read what the New York critics have to say.

A young playwright named Christopher Shinn is making a name for himself with *Four*, a play with four characters, two of whom are an older married man and the 16-year-old gay virgin who have met in a chat room. Their awkward courtship turns out to be surprisingly gentle, and parallels a related second story. Keep your eye on young Mr. Shinn.

I saw the very first New York preview of *Sweet Smell of Success* after a tryout run in Chicago, so it might seem unfair to pass judgment now. But the production itself is in great shape, as sharp as a tack, which is not always as true of the material.

The first-class team includes composer Marvin Hamlisch, director Nicholas Hytner (*Miss Saigon*), and a stage-smart John Lithgow as the ruthless Winchell-like columnist that Burt Lancaster played on screen. The diminutive but dynamic Brian d'Arcy James takes on the Tony Curtis role as an ambitious toady. Sometimes the focus is out of whack, but it's entertaining enough to become a winner.

The big, new *Oklahoma!*, also seen at a preview, is a handsome and sometimes innovative return to this classic. Susan Stroman's

choreography is the most enlivening element, but three and a quarter hours is still a long sit. Director Trevor Nunn (*Cats*) has restored two seldom-heard songs, including the really bad "It's a Scandal! It's an Outrage!"

A much smaller musical, *The Last Five Years*, has been creating some heat thanks to Jason Robert Brown. Brown won a Tony Award for the score to *Parade*, but despite his good work, the musical's book

proved its downfall. This time, Brown has skipped the book and created a 14-scene song cycle that follows a five-year relationship in a novel way.

For the man, the story begins with the first meeting with the woman he will marry. For her, the story begins at the

marriage's end, and as she tells the story in reverse, it provides an ongoing counterpoint to his forward tale. Only in the middle, when the two stories intersect, do the characters play a scene together. Performed by a pair of strong singers, Norbert Leo Butz and Sherie Rene Scott, Brown's inviting compositions get a worthy showcase.

The only real theatrical bummer, surprisingly, was provided by Kevin Bacon in his bookish guise. His performance in the one-man *An Almost Holy Picture* is proficient, if too often obvious, and



Andrew Eccles

Six degrees of Kevin Bacon



John Lithgow and Brian d'Arcy James in *Sweet Smell of Success*

that's not enough to invigorate Heather McDonald's oddly unaffectionate script about a former Episcopal priest who finds a new faith through his afflicted daughter.

But sitting through six bad shows would have been worth it if the seventh were Elaine Stritch. Theater history is being made, my friends, and you have a chance to own a piece of it. Go.

### Back to Back

Adam Bock is certainly the man of the moment in Bay Area theater. Just as his critically exalted play *Five Flights* has been extended for a second time at the Thick House on Portrero Hill, another Bock world premiere is coming up at a new performance space in downtown Berkeley.

The space is new, but the group, the Shotgun Players, is celebrating its 10th anniversary in addition to finally finding a permanent home. It was Shotgun that first introduced local audiences to the California-Canadian playwright, with the deservedly praised comedy *Swimming in the Shallows*.

Shotgun's artistic director Patrick Dooley then asked Bock to create a piece that could speak to both adults and children. The result is *A Fairy's Tale*, opening March 16 as the first production in Shotgun's 99-seat space.

Bock's previous works have not been easily summarized, especially before they were seen, and the new work is no exception. Let's just say that Little Miss What's Her Face heads off on a fairy-tale journey with her friends Miss Piffle and Norbert Longlegs before a postmodern sensibility descends upon the proceedings.

Dooley is directing Bock's play, which has songs and puppets in addition to the human contingent. "What makes Adam's work

so good and so strong," Dooley said, "is that he walks the fine line between the utterly ridiculous and the most deep and universal truths."

The location of Shotgun's new home base (the troupe will continue producing at other sites) is 2116 Allston Way. Shotgun is paying a dollar a year during its 10-year lease on the space in a multi-purpose building. For its part, Shotgun has pledged to make \$100,000 in improvements to the space. To see Bock's play in it, call (510) 704-8210.

Meanwhile, back at the Thick House on Portrero Hill, Bock's *Five Flights* is turning into a true smash hit for the Encore Theatre Company. I include myself in the swath of critics who have praised the work, and word-of-mouth must be equally as strong. The new closing date (subject to change) is March 31. Call 401-8081.

### Short scenes

• Sondheim's *Passion* is next at New Conservatory Theatre Center in its *In Concert* series of simplified productions of lesser-seen musical theater. This study of unrequited love was ambivalently received, yet received the 1994 Tony for Best Musical. Michelle Starrs is playing the besotted Fosca, with Steve Rhyme as the soldierly object of her obsessions. Tickets: 861-8972.

• A reminder that ACT is inaugurating *Out with ACT* on March 13 with its current production of *Blithe Spirit*. The program, being pitched to lesbian and gay theatergoers, includes a post-show reception with the actors. Call 749-2228 for details. ▼

Richard Dodds can be reached at [BARstage@aol.com](mailto:BARstage@aol.com).

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# O'Day in the life

## Jazz legend coming to the Plush Room

by Richard Dodds

Talking to jazz great Anita O'Day on the phone is both a disconcerting and inspiring experience. Disconcerting for the toll that age and lifestyle have taken on the 81-year-old singer, but inspirational that after years of heroin addiction, alcohol abuse, and calamitous health

problems, she is performing again at all.

O'Day, at the Plush Room March 10-12, was having a problem with a cordless phone as our conversation began.

"Where do I talk, here?" she asked, not me, but manager Robbie Cavolina, who was with her in her Los Angeles apartment. "I got a phone in my hand, and I can't tell which end is up because I never saw a phone like this in my life."

She changed phones. "This is my old one, and it fits my ear and it's logical, and what's your first name?"

There is a no-nonsense feistiness to O'Day that cuts through the occasional moments of mental fog.

"Are you coming to the show?" she wanted to know.

Yes, I said, and I'll be sure to say hello.

"Just be there," she replied. "Let's leave it at that."

O'Day was talking from Bethany Towers, a senior-citizens apartment house in Hollywood. "It's a groovy place," said Cavolina, who became O'Day's manager and informal guardian about two years ago. "Mary Pickford built it for her mother, and it's the last place that Jack Benny lived."

It is surely an improvement over the "really horrible nursing home" a previous manager had arranged for her, said Cavolina, or the succession of hospitals where the once-famed singer was first treated as an unidentified Jane Doe.

"I was living in a trailer in Hemet, Calif., and I had just acquired a little puppy," O'Day said. "I decided to go to the patio, and as I was going down these little steps, the puppy was going down these little steps. I conked out. I don't know how I got to the hospital. Every time I woke up, they gave me a pill to keep me down. It was horrible."

She was finally identified with help from film director Stanley Kramer's wife, who hired a private investigator after their mutual hairdresser told her about O'Day's missed appointments.

"Then she got a staph infection in her arm from the hospital, and it went to her lungs," Cavolina continued. "And then her throat was burned by an oxygen treatment, so then she had to stay in the hospital for almost a year with a feeding tube in her stomach. It was very, very bad, and the fact that can even perform and sing again is a miracle."

It's not the first miracle in a roller-coaster life and career. O'Day began her singing career at age 14 at dance marathons in Chicago, and that led to gigs at the city's in-crowd jazz joints. One day, drummer Gene Krupa caught her act and quickly hired the 19-year-old for his big band. After Krupa came tours with Stan Kenton's and Woody Herman's bands. She struck out on her own in the 1950s with a flourishing recording career on the Verve label.

Despite this success, no one has claimed for O'Day a terrific singing voice. Yet any vocal limitations have melded intriguingly with her fine way with a lyric and a spry, wry musical style. "I'm not a singer," she said. "I'm a song stylist. I can take any song, even 'Turkey in the Straw,' and turn it into something else."

One downside of her success,

and it's a big one, was a 16-year addiction to heroin. There were overdoses that she barely survived, several arrests, and even jail time. It's all forthrightly chronicled, along with other joys and sorrows, in O'Day's autobiography *High Times Hard Times*.

The book helped restart her career in 1981, and Cavolina is working on a film version that may star Rosanna Arquette as O'Day.

O'Day is tired of talking about her past, but a movie version is bound to rekindle interest in the sometimes sordid details. "Anita's been through so much in the last few years," Cavolina said from an extension phone, "that all that stuff is nothing comparatively."

O'Day cut in. "We gotta get going," she said. "We got things to do."

Such as?

"Well, we gotta go to the bank. And you're supposed to say, 'What for?'"

OK, what for?

"We just got a check in the mail, and my God, it's \$30,000."

"We've rekindled her relationship with Verve," her manager



Anita O'Day in earlier days

said, "and they are really supportive of her."

Unlike many performers whose successes came in earlier decades, O'Day is actually receiving royalties from the CD versions of her recordings.

As for her current repertoire, she said, "I just sing the ones I know."

Does she still love to sing? "Yeah," said O'Day, "that's what I like to do. That's my job." ▼

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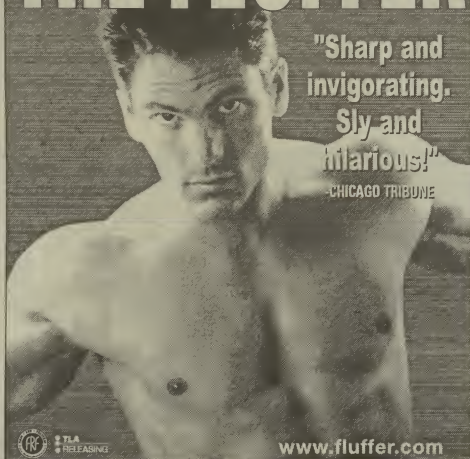
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## Ghost world

### ACT's 'Blithe Spirit'

by Richard Dodds

Ah, for the days when one could have four martinis before dinner, several glasses of port with dinner, and a brandy or two after dinner—and not be any worse for the wear. That is the intoxicating world of Noel Coward's *Blithe Spirit*, written in 1941, before the human constitution went all wimpy.

But heavy drinking is the suitable response to what befalls supercilious mystery writer Charles Condomine, a widower now living contently in the English countryside with his slightly dull second wife. To gather material for a new book, he hosts a séance conducted by the local medium that inadvertently unleashes the spirit of his vivacious first wife. The medium is happy, the other principals considerably less so.

The plot serves as a platform for Coward's comedy of manners, stylistically a successor to the wit of Oscar Wilde. It's archly funny stuff, and ACT's current production lands many of the laughs and adds a few of its own, thanks to director Charles Randolph-Wright.

While Randolph-Wright has maintained the play's original time and place, he has added a twist that, by design, tends to disappear as the play carries on. Charles and Ruth Condomine are being played by Gregory Wallace and Shona Tucker, black actors in an otherwise traditionally cast production. But the cast members' colors soon dissolve into the Coward cosmos. Their varying talents, however, do not.

Wallace offers a variation on his world-weary persona, in this case overplaying the understatement to usually felicitous effect. But Tucker, as Ruth, struggles with an English accent, and generally doesn't find a groove that complements and enhances what



Gregory Wallace, Rene Augesen

is going on around her.

Rene Augesen, in the livelier role of first wife Elvira, is well cast, fluttering about the stage with a charge of ethereal mischief. But the real treasure of this production is the deft daffness that Lori Larsen brings to Madame Arcati, a medium who prefers her martinis dry. Jessica Turner provides the physical comedy as an overwound maid, but Tom Blair and Joan Harris-Gelb add little to their functional roles as a neighbor couple.

*Blithe Spirit* is as light and airy as a soufflé, and if ACT's production doesn't completely succeed, at least it doesn't slam the oven door. ▼

*Blithe Spirit* runs at the Geary Theater through March 24. Tickets are \$15-\$61. Call 749-2228.



## DANCE

# Storytelling onstage

## San Francisco Ballet's 'Othello' returns

by Michael Wade Simpson

It takes some guts for a ballet company to commit to a full-length ballet that's a downer. People go to the ballet to get their dose of pink, don't they? *Othello*, the 1997 work co-commissioned by American Ballet Theatre and San Francisco Ballet, back onstage at the Opera House this season, offers a couple of hours of brown fading into blackness. The piece does contain a ray of hope in the part of the leading ballerina, Othello's Desdemona, a vision in white, but it's mainly a stormy sea of jealousy and lies, death and despair. As an evening of dance, the ballet is a strong, interesting work in which the whole company stretches itself to get a little ugly, to sacrifice vanity and classical training for the sake of telling a story.

The choreographer is Lar Lubovitch, a modern dance company founder, one of the few whose talents have taken him out of the loft circuit in New York, and onto the payrolls of Broadway, Disney, Dorothy Hamill, and many leading ballet companies. What you get when you hire this kind of versatile artist is a ballet that looks like modern dance, Broadway, and the Olympic figure-skating finals. Which is not a bad thing. Balanchine once choreographed for the elephants of Ringling Bros., Barnum & Bailey.

Lucia Lacarra danced the part

of Othello's doomed wife Desdemona on opening night, and she nearly perfectly embodied the opposite of everything around her. Her innocence had conviction to it, her love had a wildness, and her death, a complex passivity that Lubovitch intended to epitomize religious faith. He also gave her all the best steps. Her dance, as shaped by the transcendent Lacarra, was a beautiful, emotional one, the eye in a hurricane.

Otherwise, the ballet was theatrical like a Broadway piece, complete with special effects; it was movement as storytelling, with the usual extended solo star turns sacrificed for an organic whole. Iago schemed, Othello beat his chest, and the corps danced around in the background looking flea-bitten and hungry. It could have been *Les Misérables*.

Except for the light-as-air Desdemona, much of the rest of the dancing was earthbound. Lubovitch's modern dance vocabulary had the dancers down and unclassical in their bodies. It wasn't always pretty. Imagine an entire stage filled with beautiful ballerinas in drab colors, looking down at the floor, dancing with their hair in their faces. But if Lubovitch's idea was to dehumanize them, it worked.

### Movie music

The music, by Elliot Golden-thal, a student of Aaron Copland, offers none of the memorable

melodies found in classical works, but fills a filmic role, adding color, creating dramatic tension, and staying in the background. In the foreground are Lubovitch's strong storytelling abilities, some non-traditional corps dancing, and a chance for a ballerina in white to steal our hearts.

Let us give evil its due. From the cracked-glass stage pieces to the moving storm-cloud projections, this was one big stage full of gloom. Everything worked toward that goal. Othello, in brown, was painted the same color, covered in a Superman chest plate, and writhed on the ground in modern dance animalism. Iago had a goatee, and wore black. Unfortunately, Lubovitch made him not only the incarnation of evil, but gay. Why would Iago want Othello's wife killed? So he could jump Othello's bones himself. Shakespeare had different ideas, but that was 400 years ago. Times have changed.

Lubovitch portrays Iago as a wife-abuser and a horny closet-case. Let's hope that sometime this millennium the gay villain cliché feeds on itself in enough bad storylines that it's used up. Evil may be hard to dance, but Iago deserves better.

On opening night, Iago, danced by Damian Smith, and Othello, Cyril Pierre, did their work well, which didn't include much virtuosity. They got to be macho men posturing and gesturing. Ensign Cassio, played by



Lucia Lacarra dances Desdemona: innocence with conviction.

Stephen Legate, was the blonde guy who actually got to dance classical ballet, including some innocent moments with Desdemona, before being led off to execution.

Choreographically, the high-lights of the production were the pas de deux. Lubovitch was highly inventive in these duets, giving a swinging, diving quality to much of the pairing. Othello and Desdemona never looked like starry-eyed newlyweds; theirs was a passionate love, a breeding ground for jealousy. Iago dance-raped his woman, Bianca, played by Kristin Long, and then tried to mount Othello in a gropy, creepy Act II duet for the two men. The final,

gorgeous murder pas de deux seemed a perfect culmination, a distillation of the entire ballet.

A lasting image from *Othello*: at the wedding of Othello and Desdemona, the celebratory group section turns into fore-shadowing when the ballerinas are swung by their necks — dangling puppets or strangled chickens hanging from their partners' arms. For all the strutting, hanky-passing, and chest-beating, there is enough substance in the design, choreography and direction of this work to create a sense of real tragedy. Lubovitch and the San Francisco Ballet dancers create an affecting theatre piece. ▼

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# First nights

## Two premieres at Davies

by Philip Campbell

If anyone had asked us last week, "What's new at the Symphony?" the answer would have been simple. Two world premieres in as many weeks were keeping listeners and players alike thoroughly engaged. Aside from the stimulating business of musical exploration, there was also some last-minute scrambling for tickets going on.

A new work justifying MTT's allegiance to composer Steve Mackey and a song cycle by the conductor himself made for a fortnight of renewed interest in the life of contemporary music. The first nights didn't share the glitz of the recent Grammy Awards, but the outcome may be more enduring.

As a composer who counts himself as a work in progress, Tilson Thomas may now consider himself a beginning writer with a solid hit under his belt. *Poems of Emily Dickinson* displays wit and sensitivity, with many passages of exquisite beauty. There are few surprises, but the overall impression is engaging and perfectly satisfying.

Having colleagues who count as friends, like soprano Renée Fleming, augers well for MTT's creative future. Their mutual love of Dickinson's verse provided the impetus for a song cycle employing seven contrasting but complementary poems.

There are influences from other composers in evidence, most obviously Aaron Copland, though a singular voice is clearly emerging. If the cycle also sounds a little like late Leonard Bernstein, he was heavily in debt to Copland, too. What matters most is whether the music serves the texts, and the answer is a qualified but congratulatory yes.

The opening writing is a little on the busy side, almost as if the composer is trying to make his own mark before letting the words into play. But the instrumentation for middle-sized orchestra is expert (what a surprise), settling into a transparent and lovely texture.

Fleming, looking good in emerald green silk, supplied her trademark creamy tone and charming personality throughout the set. Well-rehearsed and thoughtful in her interpretation, she gave each poem an individual but balancing voice. The pleasing melodies filled the hall with a beautiful sound, but her pronunciation forced referral to the text supplied in the program. English is a notoriously difficult language to sing with an operatic voice, and she otherwise fulfilled her duties with grace and charm.

Two of the settings linger in the mind, the least and the most

page 39 ►



Renée Fleming: exquisite beauty

## Jon Sims Center

◀ Arts cover

midst.

As any good executive director of a nonprofit organization will do, Wilmoth first talked about money. In a time of economic turmoil, the task of keeping community-based arts flourishing becomes daunting. "The economic downturn is impacting the Sims Center at two levels," said Wilmoth in his charming, professorial way. "When I got here in August '99, we were getting gifts of stock and lots of individual donations. The community has always been very supportive of the Sims Center. They understand that a gay- and lesbian-identified organization wasn't going to attract the kind of funding support the more mainstream and palatable organizations were going to get."

In the wake of 9/11, Enron, and all that jazz, Wilmoth has seen both the number and amounts of individual contributions diminish, "and that's very serious for the Sims Center, because we're still building an artistic reputation that would make us attractive to funding from private foundations."

The most serious concern for all San Francisco art spaces, said Wilmoth, is that funds in the city coffers will diminish, impacting Grants for the Arts. "The wonderful thing about Grants for the Arts is that their funding is for general operating support," he said. "The majority of foundation funding is for specific projects. For example, we just got a Space Initiative Grant which has allowed us to install new lighting instruments and get dimmer packs, so that the performances we have here will be much more theatrically sophisticated. I suspect that special initiatives like that will be diminished if not eliminated for the next year."

As anyone who has visited the exceptionally funky, low-fi Jon Sims Center knows, any expenditure for lighting and other im-

provements can only help in that space, where everything looks like it's built or salvaged from junkyard scraps.

Especially for the last few years, the Jon Sims Center, established 24 years ago by the flamboyant Freedom Band founder, has served as a *de facto* community center for performance artists. I asked Wilmoth if he sees some of that energy now shifting over to the new community center.

"I'm really not concerned about it," he replied. "I'm thrilled that our collaborative partners, the Harvey Milk Institute and the Queer Cultural Center, finally have a home. They're going to be doing some of the same things we're already doing, which is literary presentations and presentations of scholars, but we're going to be doing things that they aren't, that I think are necessary and meet community needs." He referred to the popular AIRspace Artist-in-Residence program, "the only place in the country that offers residencies for the development of new queer performance work," and *SFinX*, a spoken-word enterprise that has drawn enthusiastic participation.

### Room for everybody

Wilmoth feels the new community center, far from detracting from other arts venues, will create a more diverse geographic center for the queer community. "I try to imagine what I call cultural democracy, where there is a place for everything," he said. "We need Luna-Sea and Theatre Rhino and NCTC, and we need QCC, the HMI, and the Jon Sims Center as well. All of these people can be distinctive contributors."

How is this all fitting in with the Band, and the acrobatic group Cheer SF, the principal residents of the Sims Center? "The Band and Cheer make an incalculable contribution to queer visibility. Cheer right now is at a big festival in Singapore. Members of the Band and Cheer will also be going to the Gay Games in Sydney. In combination with our new works programs, they make us a really interesting queer model. If we can contain these community-based groups, that's really unusual. It's queer, in fact."

It's when Wilmoth turns to the political climate in which the

Sims Center and other arts group must operate that he becomes most somber in his assessment. "Ten years ago, the most exciting art I was witness to had to do with AIDS," he said. "The political realities have shifted, and what I'm looking forward to, and what Ed [Groff, Sims Center assistant director] keeps talking about, is what we're calling Smash the State Art," in response to the egregious greed of Enron "and the sliminess of the Bush Administration, particularly neo-Fascists like John Ashcroft and Rumsfeld. We're going to have lots to protest, particularly Ashcroft, [who] clearly has strong Fascist cravings. That's definitely going to impact gays and lesbians; you can be sure that it'll filter down to us. He considers us reprehensible."

Wilmoth looks forward to a time "when artists can begin to subvert what I think is going to be an increasingly dark time in this country, when artists will be able to articulate the kind of disgust, outrage and despair anybody conscious looking around at the world feels right now."

The big danger in this climate, he cautioned, is that government arts funding will be stripped away, as it was after the "NEA Four" debacle, when artists Tim Miller, Holly Hughes, Karen Finley and John Fleck were censored. "And because of the kind of idiotic, jingoistic patriotism that we're having to swallow all the time," he added, "for less courageous artists, there might be a lot of self-censorship."

Self-censorship is precisely what Wilmoth hopes the Sims Center's artists avoid. "We try to make that clear, particularly to our Artists in Residence, and those who are writing new plays as part of our Alchemy emerging playwrights series, and certainly our teen youth theater project, Mighty Real Theater. The kids are encouraged to be as outrageous as they feel they need to be. So hopefully the Sims Center can also serve as a place where artists feel the freedom to be expressive, even if it's unpopular with the mainstream to be critical of the state, or to be explicit about their sexual desire." ▼

For more information about the Jon Sims Center, visit the Web at [www.jonsimsctr.org](http://www.jonsimsctr.org).

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# Girlchicks in love

'Kissing Jessica Stein' frustrates in the end

by David Lamble

In the new comedy *Kissing Jessica Stein*, two women debate their future together while trying to hail a New York cab. Somehow they manage to catch both the cab and each other for what, at times, promises to be an original and exhilarating ride. With an intriguing premise — what keeps so many women from harvesting the fruits of intimate friendships and crossing the thin line between girlfriends and girlfriends? — *Stein* at times makes a serious bid to be an all-girl *Annie Hall*. Ultimately, it's one of those frustrating films you want to like more than you do.

I like the idea, a very odd cou-

pling of two women motivated by boredom and frustration; I like the setting, the great secular Jewish world of New York City; I like the cast, especially the captivating girlchick leads Heather Juergensen and Jennifer Westfeldt, who hatched *Jessica* as an off-off-Broadway skit about "two Laura Ashley-clad girly-girls who meet at a day spa to negotiate how to become lesbians"; and I love the great Jewish mother, the legendary cabaret artist and stage actress Tovah Feldshuh, who so movingly grants Jessica permission to be herself. So why don't I like the film? Because there's not enough pressure in the cooker, or spice in the sauce — it's not funny enough. Its honest stabs at

Woody's world fall short because of its failure to provide that roller-coaster ride of reversals that power the greatest of Allen's romantic comedies.

In *Annie Hall*, Allen breaks our hearts when a wildly mismatched pair of neurotics fail to survive their *Pygmalion*-like courtship. In *Manhattan*, he beats us to the punch by mocking the very idea of a serious relationship between his 43-year-old unemployed comedy writer and a 17-year-old girlfriend. In each film, the relationship faces serious outside obstacles, but succeeds or fails because of its own internal harmonies or contradictions.

I can't remember any lines to quote from *Jessica Stein* (although



Heather Juergensen, Jennifer Westfeldt, 'two Laura Ashley-clad girly-girls'

Westfeldt does have some winning-ly Keaton-esque stammering moments, the humor lies in the performance rather than the writing), and this I think is key to the problem with the film. Although they received feedback from a studio, Westfeldt and Juergensen didn't have the benefit of a writing partner, as Woody did on both *Annie Hall* and *Manhattan*, the underacknowledged Marshall Brickman. They weren't prodded to build up a serious enough set of obstacles to this marriage of *Annie Hall* and *Maria Braun*. The one man who could provide some entertaining complications, Jessica's boss/ex-beau Scott (Josh Meyers), is given only one good scene to burst her balloon before he's shunted off to the sidetrack of a paralyzing writer's block. The best comedy arises from the facile pilfering of a Spike Lee joint — a montage of

bad-boy dates that dog Jessica and prompt her bond with Helen.

Director Charles Herman-Wurmfeld does an able job of directing traffic (and cab driving) to totally erase from my memory the sour taste of his first feature, *Fanci's Persuasion*. Give this man more work, he's good. I would also love to see Westfeldt and Juergensen come back with more challenging material. They've got guts, imagination and good screen chemistry.

Even a failed comedy of women crossing the line beats the hell out of most date-night fare these days, suggesting as it does the even more intriguing idea of men (who don't appear "gay") pulling off the same trick. ▼

*Kissing Jessica Stein* opens Wed., March 13.

## Smooching with Ms. Stein

Chatting with the film's cast and director

by Brandon Judell

*Kissing Jessica Stein* is a delicious, uncommonly light comedy about a Jewish girl who can't find love. Yes, Jessica Stein (Jennifer Westfeldt) dates and dates, but each chap she noshes on *hors d'oeuvres* with winds up being more horrendous than the last chap she noshed with.

If this weren't enough punishment from God, at work one day, Jessica gets the dreaded phone call. Her brother is tying the knot. Oh, no! Another look of pity from Mom (Tovah Feldshuh) will be arriving any second by Federal Express.

To cheer her up, her friends read aloud to her from the classifieds. Nothing clicks until... hey, that guy sounds terrific. Sorry, Jessica! His ad's listed under "Women Seeking Women."

Well, a desperate gal seeks desperate measures, and Jessica decides to try out lesbian love. The gal who wrote the ad, the highly sexed Helen Cooper (Heather Juergensen), is also trying out gals for the first time.

Wow! One look at each other, and they both decide, after much hemming and hawing, to have a drink together. One drink leads to another and the sharing of makeup tips, love, and eventually sex (weeks later), and then...

If this film had a \$100 million budget, it could have starred Meg Ryan and Julia Roberts as pussy-footing lipstick lesbians. Westfeldt and Juergensen are fine substitutes, and since they also wrote the screenplay, they deserve the glory, and also the reproof.

Leave this film 10 minutes early. When you see "Three months later" on the screen, skeddaddle immediately. If you comply, you'll be wanting to kiss, fondle, and use a dental dam on Jessica Stein, too. If not, you might experience serious psychological and physical complications, plus your date might not put out.

*Stein* takes you through the ordeals and joys of its heroine realizing she's in love with another woman. Immediately, she has to get a new wardrobe and hairdo, plus she has to come out to her mom. At what you think is the finale, Jessica is on the roof with her old boyfriend, Josh (Scott Cohen), and

he makes a long, arduous speech about why he still loves her. Jessica thanks him, admits she loves Helen, and leaves him behind.

Suddenly, we get an epilog instead of end credits. Jessica has moved into Helen's apartment, and the duo are still madly in love, but Jessica refuses to have sex any more. Helen kicks her out and finds a new girlfriend. Jessica goes back to her old boyfriend, and will no doubt end up with 2 1/2 kids and a picket fence. What?!

### Cop-out story

To find out why this cop-out ending was added to a very pleasing laughfest, *BAR* sat down with the film's cast and director in Manhattan's Essex Hotel.

First we confronted the lovely Tovah Feldshuh, who plays Jessica's very Jewish mom. She played a similar part in the superb *A Walk on the Moon*, had same-sex kisses on Broadway in *Yentl*, and played the bisexual Tallulah Bankhead onstage in *Tallulah Hallelujah!* Attired in a Chanel suit and no makeup, but with tasteful earrings, Tovah gave us the following dish when asked if the ending was added to please studio heads:

"No, it wasn't. Look, the ending was a conundrum for them. The ending was really difficult for them. It was already the Chinese menu with this ending. They tried everything they could think of, oddly enough except for the triumph of a homosexual relationship. They wanted to expose us to the full gamut of choices. To the wider spectrum of choices. That's all I can think of. Both the Republican and the Democratic points of view."

Openly gay and dimpled director Charles Herman-Wurmfeld, a former San Franciscan, was next. You might recall his direction of three rock operas in the Bay, including *The Cereal Killers*. He also helmed *The Facts of Life* reunion, in which he wanted to bring out Jo's lesbianism.

"I really wanted to," Charles admitted. "I really pushed them, and I didn't get my way. But I wanted to make Jo gay, because I think she was gay."

What about the last 10 minutes of *Jessica Stein*?

"I'm a gay person," he solemnly intoned. Single? "No." Who cares, then?

"Well, I experienced my com-

ing out just like Helen. I fell in love with my straight best friend," he said. "We had an ongoing sexual relationship which was extremely satisfying for me, but not so for him. Eventually the sex tapered off just as it does in our movie, and we broke up. That break-up was the beginning of a friendship that lasts to this day. So

next page ►

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# Murder under the big sky

## 'The Laramie Project' premieres on HBO

by Joe E. Jeffreys

Like Waco or Jasper, Laramie has become a place defined by an event. In October, 1998, a college student was savagely beaten and murdered by two young men in Laramie, Wyoming. The student's name was Matthew Shepard, and he was openly gay.

His death was seized upon by the media and became a symbolic cultural event that suddenly focused large numbers of diverse people on an issue that heretofore was of little importance to them. Much as Rock Hudson's death brought AIDS into the public spotlight in a way not previously experienced, Shepard's death caused a worldwide reconsideration of its lackadaisical attitude towards violence against gay people.

The *Laramie Project* explores the media, cultural and emotional phenomenon of Shepard's death. Originally conceived, written, and staged by Moises Kaufman and his Tectonic Theatre Project, the powerful play has now been adapted and directed by Kaufman for television. HBO will premiere *The Laramie Project* on Saturday, March 9.

Kaufman calls events like Shepard's death "lightning rods," as they draw people to them and cause them to direct attention. A month after Shepard's death, Kaufman and his theatre company were drawn to Laramie, and

they began to explore and examine the town and its residents, as well as their own reactions to their experiences. They conducted over 200 interviews during the course of a year of visits, and distilled them into a three-act play with over 60 speaking parts for eight actors. "In Laramie, what we found was so incredibly awe-inspiring. The people of the town said, 'Why did this happen? Why did this happen here?' And there was a conversation that started happening about why. Why did it happen? And I think that in listening to the answers, I have come to believe that our answers are pertinent not only to Laramie, but to so many other small towns in America."

### Wyoming beauty

A native of Venezuela, Kaufman and his New York City-based company have been acclaimed for the past decade. One of their best-known previous productions, *The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde*, also focused on a lightning-rod event, and likewise employed a strict docudrama structure. A first-time film director, Kaufman notes, "One of the things we do when we make theatre is ask what is the thing that theatre can do that only theatre can do? How does theatre speak? When it came time to make the movie, that question seemed very valuable. What's the thing that film can do to contribute to this dialogue? We can show the beauty of the landscape of

Wyoming. We can show Laramie."

A strength of the HBO version is its depiction of the beautiful place in which this horrible thing happened. Shot in Laramie and Denver last spring, the film uses many of the actual locations from the real-life events. The big-sky country of Wyoming works in sharp counterpoint to the grisly story that unfolds beneath it. Peter Golub's score mediates nicely.

Another major distinction between the stage version and the HBO adaptation is its casting. In the stage version, eight actors play 60-some roles among them, with no real costume changes. The HBO version cast each role individually. The star-studded cast includes Camryn Manheim, Janeane Garofalo, Peter Fonda, Christina Ricci, Dylan Baker, and Jeremy Davies, among many other notables. This approach does become distracting within the work's documentary form, and there are a few false performances. Particularly strong performances, however, are given by Steve Buscemi as a local cab driver who knew Shepard, and by Laura Linney, who delivers a chilling monologue about Shepard's "lifestyle."

"When we started casting the movie, it turned out because the play had already run in New York and Denver, a lot of people had already seen the play. So when we started making the movie, our producers at Good Machine and HBO started getting calls from different actors who wanted to be

Amy Madigan, Nestor Cabonelli in *The Laramie Project* on HBO

part of it. Everybody's who's in the film really wanted to do this. They wanted to be part of telling the story. So I think the spirit of how the play was constructed kind of permeated into the way the movie was constructed," says Kaufman. The HBO project was honored this year with the distinction of opening the Sundance Film Festival.

Far from the first or last TV treatment of the Matthew Shepard story, MTV produced a version of the story told from the killer's point of view several years ago, and later this month NBC will air its own made-for-TV movie, *The*

### Matthew Shepard Story

*The Laramie Project*, despite some of the falterings of its adaptation, remains a strong statement. As Kaufman notes, "The movie talks about how we deal with one another. And it talks about how we are going to continue to negotiate our relationships that is not going to lead to murder." ▼

**The Laramie Project will premiere on HBO on March 9. Check listings for airtime and other airdates.**

## Jessica Stein

◀ previous page

I feel that this story is a true story that really reflects the way people do explore sexuality in a very modern way.

"It's not a classic gay love story," he added, "just as it is not a classic straight love story. It's rather this love story that goes right down the middle and explores this territory that no one wants to talk about. No one wants to admit that there is an ambiguous territory there. That straight people do explore. That gay people do explore with straight people. That there is a meeting place. It's also important because there needs to be a certain kind of social acceptance for this kind of relationship."

Finally, Jennifer and Heather sat down and let loose. Immediately, Jennifer said, "We've gotten about 80/20 ratio of some support vs. not support for the film. I think the negativity has to do with the fact that at least for one of the characters, there is support of this

notion of there being a sexual continuum. But they're two women with two different outcomes in this story. Unfortunately, we live in a world that is still biased despite the fact that we like to think everyone accepts everyone else. That's not the case. So I think the fear is justified.

"In this film, we're preaching tolerance and acceptance and whatever makes anybody happy. So I think that putting out the idea that sexual fluidity exists for people who think it's only a biological factor, that's tricky. It's tricky to accept that some people might have sexual fluidity if you don't, if people persecute you for not having that. There are groups out there who think homosexuality is something to be cured. That's a despicable point of view. We certainly would never want that idea to be out there."

Heather added, "For us, making *Kissing Jessica Stein* was more about trying to tell a typical romantic comedy where the audience might forget that it's about two girls instead of a girl and a guy."

We almost forgot. ▼

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## Asian-American

◀ Arts cover

dark comedy from director Justin Lin. *Better Luck Tomorrow* delivers a closely observed speed trip, as a gang of four LA Asian high school kids rip along an academic fast track that will take them either to Stanford or to Hell. The film detours through Gregg Araki country (*The Doom Generation*) and winds up in Larry Clark land, with a *Bully*-like denouement that will leave some audience members with their hair standing up without the benefit of gel. An attractive young cast navigates the slippery slope between sex and violence. *Better Luck Tomorrow* will prompt a host of post-film discussions (3/7, Kab).

Another disturbing film is Japanese director Akihiro Shiota's *Harmful Insect*, in which a 13-year-old schoolgirl (Aoi Miyazaki) is buffeted by the disappearance of her father, the loose life of her bar hostess mom, and her own sexual encounter with a sixth grade teacher. The director, who has expressed a desire to get beyond life's "cruel realities" to "find penetrating moments of supreme, though fleeting bliss," has fashioned a Japanese *Stranger than Paradise*, stripped of its more obvious humor and left as a poetic meditation on the sublime banality of existence (3/8 & 10, Kab).

### Brutal acts

Probably the most disturbing of this year's feature documentaries is Matsui Minoru's *Japanese Devils*, framing the confessions of now-elderly Japanese WWII veterans of war crimes committed against the Chinese people by the Japanese Imperial Army between 1931 and 1945, including the infamous "rape of Nanjing" and the massacre of its civilian population. It's in some ways a Japanese *Shoah*. The director, who faced considerable opposition in financing and filming the stories of the 14 war veterans, explains that "before they went off to war, the witnesses who testify to their brutal acts in this film were once very ordinary people. They were me, and they were you." The film seeks to undermine the popular myth that the war atrocities were simple the work of "rogue" militarists who were punished in the Tokyo War Crimes Trial, and that Japan is now a free and democratic nation with better things to do than sifting through its feudal past (3/9, Kab; 3/10, PFA).

And now for something completely different, a feel-good film



Director Justin Lin's dark comedy *Better Luck Tomorrow* opens the 20th Asian American Film Festival.

about Vietnamese refugees in transition through an American resettlement camp following the fall of Saigon. In the capable hands of the Bui brothers (director/writer Timothy Linh and writer/producer Tony) and a formidable cast headed up by Patrick Swayze and Forest Whitaker, *Green Dragon* will both nourish the soul and break your heart. It details a few of the stories of refugees passing through the Marine-run Camp Pendleton in 1975 — stories like that of a young Vietnamese boy, Minh Pham (Trung Nguyen), who is adopted by an avuncular camp cook (Whitaker). Boy and man find a common bond in the death of their mothers and their love for the cartoon hero Mighty Mouse. A strong candidate for audience favorite, the film proves that Vietnam was as much the beginning of a hopeful new chapter in American life as a defeat and source of national shame (3/14, Kab; 3/17, SJO).

A pop film that confirms the vitality of the new Taiwanese cinema, *Betelnut Beauty* by director Lin Cheng-Sheng gives life to a dark fairy-tale romance between two young people who meet in a summer rainstorm, and defy the odds of survival in the treacherous subculture fostered by gangs controlling the city's Betelnut racket (a legal pepper that is chewed to produce a potlike high, sold by pretty girls in roadside stands.) A captivating melodrama with a good soundtrack (3/9 & 13, Kab; 3/16, SJO).

### People's court

A strong entry in the documentary field, *Presumed Guilty*, a KQED co-production, goes behind the scenes of San Francisco's

embattled Public Defender's Office and demonstrates just how hard these people's attorneys work for their indigent clients. Although controversial for its in-depth portrayal of former public defender Jeff Adachi, *Presumed Guilty* creates a new star in the person of defender Will Maas. Maas (a Vietnam vet who you feel is paying penance for his own "war crimes") not only defends but virtually adopts his hard-luck clients. A mild-mannered guy whose hornrimmed glasses conceal a steel-trap legal mind, Maas is so hard-wired to serve his flock that he wakes up in the middle of the night to hatch better jury arguments while conducting an engagingly soulful dialogue through a video diary. Your KQED and tax dollars are well-spent in this classy doc (3/10, Cas).

Another timely entry is transplanted Australian Kay Rasool's *My Journey, My Islam*, a search for the subtle ties that bind Muslim women around the world. Particularly revealing is a thoughtful conversation with former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto (the first Islamic female head of state), who describes her country's painful slide back to an autocratic feudalism that seeks to extinguish the rights of women and minorities. *My Journey, My Islam* also illuminates the paradox of how some women seek respect,

individuality and even freedom under the veil (3/9 & 13, Kab).

A quick tour through queer-friendly shorts programs reveals such gems as *The Quest for Length*, Gene Rhee's funny account of a young Asian-American man's quest to find a nonsurgical way to a bigger dick. Despite the intense examination of every view of the subject, *Quest* is comedy-rich but nudity-free (3/8 & 12, Kab).

*To Be...or Not To Be: The Adventures of Iron Pussy III* is not only one of the longest titles for a short movie, but also that rare event, a coherent Thai film that both entices and challenges conventional wisdom about the country's complex rent-boy culture. Combining both formal, erotic and vérité elements, *To Be* is a challenging hybrid of the wild, wacky world of video voyeurism. Plus, SF's own Stuart Gaffney provides a whirlwind tour explaining how *My Lover's Aunt's Porn* provided a road map for his own sexy adventures (3/10, Cas).

With titles like *Shut Up White Boy* (Thu Ha Vu), *Come with Me*, *Swim with You* (Patty Chang) and *Junk Box Warrior* (Preeti Mistry), the *Hit It or Quit It* program has a little something for most tastes (3/9, Kab). ▼

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A scene from Japanese director Akihiro Shiota's *Harmful Insect*; poetic

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# First time at bat

## Three debut novels

by Deborah Peifer

First novels are difficult to write, and even trickier to review. Do I give points for effort, or is it condescending to note that this labor of love or madness or ego is a first effort? Is the promise shown in the first attempt a harbinger of greatness to come, or beginner's luck? Should a novel come with a warning that this is the writer's first? Three first novels, each different from the other in theme, plot, genre, and, yes, merit, offer me the chance to explore those questions, but, of course, the answers are up to you.

Modern apartment buildings seem to have considerably less personality than a box of blocks. What if the personalities of the inhabitants stayed around the flat long after the body of the tenant departed? Might a man's madness infect the next occupant? In his first novel, *Flat*, Mark Macdonald (Arsenal, \$11.95) explores what

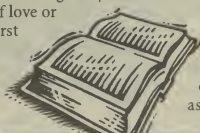
out the apartment. But the distant acquaintance, who barely knew J., is appalled at the responsibility. He decides to search the flat, certain that among the papers and journals he will find a more worthy recipient of the news of J.'s suicide. As he spends time searching, he begins first to understand, then adopt as his own, J.'s obsessions.

Macdonald writes with an elegant yet spare style, without a single extraneous word. As we learn about J.'s neighbors, and the unnamed narrator's friends and acquaintances, we learn about the agony of loneliness and the seeming impossibility of connection. *Flat* is a novel of madness, but it is also a tale of the efforts we all make to create meaning in our lives. This is an extraordinary novel, the first, I hope, of many.

### A blazing beginning

There are days when my life seems too busy, and I think longingly about a job as, oh, say, a lighthouse keeper. There's actually an even lonelier choice, that of fire warden in the north Canadian woods. Four months alone in a cabin in the woods, spending much of the day up a 100-foot tower, looking for smoke. On the majority of days, there's no smoke, and little beyond the weather report to differentiate one day from another. Into this bleak retreat comes Percy (the butchification of her entirely too femme given name, Priscilla) Turner, a young woman who has finally broken up with her sometimes lover, and who plans to spend the fire season reinventing herself. *Burning Ground* (by Pearl Luke; Plume, \$13) is her story, and it is a terrifying and heart-rending tale of her descent into madness. Or is she mad? Maybe she's just making herself over, deciding what really is important, choosing what parts of her past are worth taking along on her journey to her new self.

Luke captures solitary life with astonishing skill. We see the subtle



### Book Report



might be the polar opposite of pride of place, the insanity of location. A man is found dead in his apartment, and in all the detritus of his solitary life, his landlady finds only one telephone number, and so calls this number to announce the death and request that this man come to clear



but palpable change in Percy, and the quality of her solitude, over time. Percy's efforts to reach out to her fellows, separated by miles but connected by radio and e-mail, are painful and yet somehow filled with hope. Her memories of a dreadful childhood (her mother, in the grip of postpartum psychosis, was convinced that Percy was Satan's child) are wrenching, and yet it seems that she may be able to make peace with her past and with the present. *Burning Ground* is a darkly touching novel that would be the pride of a seasoned fiction writer. That it is a first novel makes it all the more exceptional.

### Luckless and lame

Some novels scream for a firm editorial hand. I only wish that some editor had taken William Jack Sibley under a third of his overblown, underdeveloped first novel, *Any Kind of Luck* (Kensington, \$23). Clu La-

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# Mad sisters

by Tavo Amador

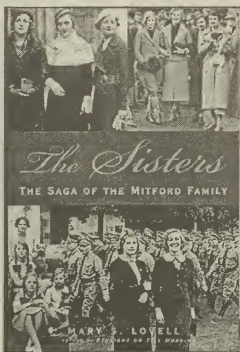
If the Mitfords hadn't existed, novelist E.M. Forster might have created them, for they seem almost fictional. Two of Baron and Lady Redesdale's daughters (Unity, Diana) became Fascists; another (Jessica, "Decca") was a muckraking Communist; Nancy was an acerbic, elegant Socialist who fell in love with one of brother Tom's boyfriends and wrote bestselling novels; the youngest (Deborah, "Debo") became Duchess of Devonshire. Only Pam ("Woman") avoided the limelight, living in the country. Their story is told in Mary S. Lovell's *The Sisters: The Saga of the Mitford Family* (Norton, \$29.95), a balanced, well-researched and beautifully written biography.

David Freeman Mitford (1878-1958) was the second son of Baron

Redesdale. He married the upper-class Sydney Bowles (1880-1963), and from 1904 to 1920 they had seven children. Because elder brother Clement was heir to the family title and properties, David worked for a living. At one point, he and Sydney were prospecting for gold in the Canadian Yukon in a town called Swastika, which is where they conceived Unity. But Clement died fighting in World War I, and David succeeded his father in 1916.

Although comfortable, the family was not wealthy. Sydney managed the household staff efficiently, giving the children unconditional but not uncritical love. Although only Tom was educated at university (something Nancy and Decca always resented), the sisters were well-schooled at home. Each was given a year abroad and a proper debutante season.

Nancy (1904-1973) early evi-



denced a strong literary bent, befriending Evelyn Waugh and the Oxford students who inspired his homoerotic *Brideshead Revisited*. She longed to marry Hamish St. Clair, one of Tom's lovers at Eton. Later, she modeled characters in *The Pursuit of Love* and *Love in a Cold Climate* on St. Clair and others in this set. She had an unhappy marriage to Peter Rodd, and a

next page ►



# Dick's jockey

by John F. Karr

Admit it. Every time you see Matt Dillon, you wanna get him in the sack. You just know he's got one of those Robert Mitchum kind of gotta-take-it-seriously cocks, and that he'd throw a pretty hip fuck that was a mix of laid back and take charge.

Well, dream on. The closest thing you're going to get to Matt is a couple of videos by director Drew Warner which feature a young Dillon lookalike named Marc Anthony.

You might wanna check him out. And then again, when I'm finished with him, you might not.

Warner's *High Desert*, a passably entertaining, non-plotted outdoor extravaganza featuring Dean Phoenix, Dylan Reese, Austin Masters and Anthony, has just been released on DVD. But the new format is a step down from the VHS edition of 2000. The disc's chaptering helpfully lists the performers in each scene, and offers each of the movie's five scenes as a single chapter, without breaking them down into the typically confusing and ill-defined mini-portions of most DVDs. But this may be the most poorly mastered DVD I've seen, with such a soft focus it looks like a transfer of vintage porn shot on grainy

16mm film stock. And though several hundred excellent Mick Hicks photos in the galleries are a generous amount, each and every one of them is presented out of focus.

Anthony, meanwhile, has sort of internalized "out of focus." He's got the all-star cock you hoped hung off Matt Dillon, a hefty thing of sterling solidity. But he has a no-star personality. More succinctly, he has no personality. Judging by his noncommittal fucking, or his refusal to stick his tongue

in his co-star's mouth, you could call him a

reluctant porn star, but even that attributes more attitude to him than he's got. Anthony drifts through his scenes, either refusing or simply unable to engage, even when cast with a very responsive star, the sporty Dylan Reese. (Anthony's best scene is in the entertaining DVD *Anthony Rose's Bisexual Encyclopedia of Erotica, Vol. 1*, and that's because all he has to do is lie there looking slickly Dilonesque while a gal and a guy worship his impressive cock; this was the scene that introduced me to Anthony, and the one I go back to when the others disappoint.)

Like Anthony, *High Desert* has a general sluggishness that was, perhaps, a result of the desert heat. Reese works hard in his

scene, plugging himself valiantly on Anthony's rigid pole, but is ultimately unable to convince viewers that much was going on. A three-way with Anthony and two companions is just too lackadaisical, and the movie's opening salvo with Phoenix and the tempting Jack Ryan is best experienced in those fuzzy still photos, which provoke the imagination in a way the scene's somewhat random videography can't match.

## Inside story

Mark Anthony can also be seen, to no better advantage, in Warner's latest offering, *Inside Porn*. A video magazine, it mixes several brief and only minimally interesting on-the-set interviews with performers and backstage peaks at photo sessions with longer, more rewarding hardcore scenes, which are obviously outtakes from Warner's catalogue. A poolside duo with pups Brett Collins and Tanner Hayes would have enlivened Warner's *Poolside* with Phoenix, and an extended solo-with-dildo for Marine-type Frank Taylor would have been a high point in the director's *MAN-euvers*. I was certainly glad to cum across it here.

*Inside Porn* has the scene in which Anthony seems scared to french Giovanni Corleone, although he spends a few moments nibbling at the hunky boy's cock. But the vindication of Marc Anthony comes in the movie's finale. This solo sequence finds the boy alone in a swimming pool. With



Matt Dillon lookalike Marc Anthony

some beautiful black-and-white underwater photography, this is a sensitively filmed ode to a memorable member—it's one of those *Blue Danube* sequences, as the weightless though obviously

weighty cock sluices majestically through the waters. By not involving Anthony personally, this sequence does the otherwise drab performer proud. And then, he does his dick proud. For a few moments, as he jacks off, you understand why people want to put him in porn. He lies there, flat, his ensorceling pole standing tall. You compose yourself after a moment, and realize that Marc seems to be asleep while his hand, like the disembodied one in that old horror movie that crawled across the floor on a terrifying journey, tugs at his meat. Wouldn't it be swell if some handsome prince, say Matt Dillon, would come along and awaken Marc Anthony with a kiss? ▼

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## Karnal Knowledge

## Mad Mitfords

◀ previous page

frustrating but long-lasting affair with Gaston Palewski, an aide to Charles de Gaulle. Nancy's wit bordered on cruel, yet she remained close to all the family. She also realized there was little difference between Hitler's Germany and Stalin's Russia, and wrote Decca that it was easier being a Communist in England or America than behind the Iron Curtain.

### Fascist moll

As a girl, Jessica (1917-1996) adored Diana (b. 1910), but was closest to Unity (1914-1948). All were lovely, but Diana was the unquestioned family beauty. She wed wealthy brewer heir Bryan Guinness and had two sons. In 1932 she met the married Sir Oswald Mosley, head of the British Union of Fascists, and fell madly in love, divorcing Guinness. She became Mosley's mistress, only marrying him after his wife died.

Many British aristocrats thought Fascism an effective antidote to Communism: Winston Churchill initially admired Mussolini. In 1932, Unity and Diana attended a major Nazi rally in Munich. Eventually, Unity met Hitler and they became friends, seeing each other frequently. Diana hoped to purchase a German radio station that Mosley could use for broadcasts to England.

Unity was in Munich when Britain declared war on Germany in 1939. Distracted, she attempted suicide, shooting herself in the temple. She lived but suffered permanent brain damage. To Sydney's eternal gratitude, Hitler paid for Unity's medical care and permitted her to go to Switzerland, and from there to England and her mother's devoted attention.

Jessica married the handsome, charismatic Esmond Romilly,

Churchill's nephew, who despised their aristocratic heritage. After fighting Fascists in Spain, they moved to America, running a successful restaurant. When World War II broke out, he enlisted and was killed, leaving Jessica devastated. Influenced by Esmond (whom Nancy despised), Jessica stayed away from her family, refusing to reconcile with Diana, who, along with Mosley, was jailed in England for her politics. Jessica did express anxiety about Unity's condition, but did not see her again. She eventually remarried, happily, to Bob Truehaft, a crusading civil rights attorney. They lived in Oakland, joined the American Communist Party, but eventually left. Her memoirs, *Hons and Rebels*, were entertaining but unfair to Sydney and harsh about Diana. She had another bestseller, *The American Way of Death*, which exposed the funeral industry.

Diana's memoirs were also bestsellers, and her sympathetic biography of the Duchess of Windsor is well-regarded by scholars. Debo married the second son of the Duke of Devonshire, whose older brother had wed Kathleen "Kick" Kennedy, eldest sister of the future American president. This brother died during the war, and Debo's husband succeeded to the title and extensive properties, including the fabled Chatsworth, which they restored splendidly.

In 1973, the sisters reunited in Paris when Nancy was diagnosed with terminal cancer. Decca made several trips and behaved civilly to Diana. Diana says they laughed over old times. After Nancy's death, however, Decca never saw or wrote to Diana again.

The book focuses on the sisters, but the handsome, charming Tom (1909-1945) also seems fascinating. Although Lovell says he ultimately preferred women to men, it is hard to say what his life

would have been had he not died during the war while fighting in Southeast Asia. (Like Sydney, Diana, and Unity, Tom was sympathetic to Hitler. He initially fought against Germany, later asking for reassignment to combat the Japanese.) Fellow Etonian James Lees-Milne recalled, "On Sunday eves, before Chapel... when the toll of the bell betokened that all boys must be in their pews, (Tom) and I would... out of sight... passionately embrace, lips to lips, body pressed to body, each feeling the opposite fibre of the other..."

This brief review cannot do justice to Lovell's exceptional achievement. It reads like a witty yet serious psychological novel, with fascinating, complex characters, and is almost impossible to put down. ▼

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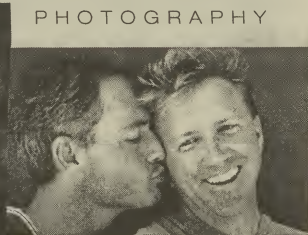
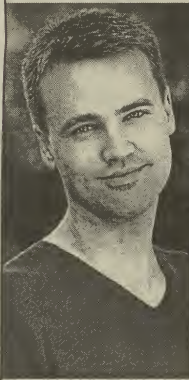
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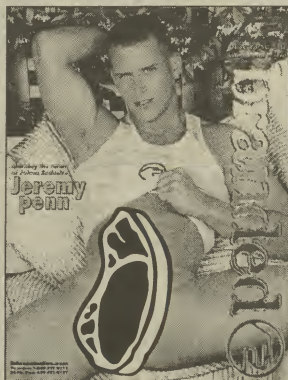
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# OUT & ABOUT

## Calendare

by Mark Mardon



Harvey Milk Institute's Kevin Schaub

## Milk's boys

In the week before The Center officially opened, I got a sneak preview of the place courtesy of two of the nicest queer boys ever, Kevin Schaub and Mark Menke of the Harvey Milk Institute. The two eternally upbeat, energetic fellows and their many volunteers are now luxuriating in a largish office space in the "old" section of the new building, which they share with Pam Peniston and the many volunteers of the Queer Cultural Center. It makes for a cozy atmosphere. Formerly Schaub and Menke operated their thriving nonprofit queer educational organization out of a less central shoebox — Schaub's living room. Now they get to enjoy amenities formerly lacking, like an actual office space that people can visit and where volunteers can do their thing, easy access to comfortable rooms with old-style Victorian bay windows and modernist furnishings well suited to classroom activities, thus solving some of HMI's classroom needs.

Program Director Mark Menke, so much like Schaub in his happy demeanor, is quick to point out that not all HMI community classes will take place in The Center. One of his favorites, exploring the intricacies of buttplay, happens just down the street at Club Eros.

Executive Director/Dean Schaub rejoices in all the amenities the new building offers, though he knows he's sharing everything with some 23 other nonprofit organizations, some of which will occupy tiny office cubicles in the "new" section.

He traipsed through the more open spaces, showing them off with grand sweeps of his arm, rhapsodizing on all the wonderful possibilities. "The main performance space actually has a projection booth!" he marvels. It's not a huge space, and when packed (as it was at the gala opening), it's as tight as a hot nightclub; nonetheless it's ideal for modest-scale presentations such as live music, spoken-word, dance, films and lectures, all part of the HMI educational model.

Most of all Schaub is giddy because occupying The Center puts him and his organization at the center of the known queer universe in so many ways, and Schaub is nothing if not a celebrity hound — in a good way! His smart patter and engaging queeniness earn him many devoted volunteers and donors, proving personality pays off in dividends. ▼

For more information about the Harvey Milk Institute, phone 552-7200; visit the Web at [www.harveymilk.org](http://www.harveymilk.org)

Kym Priess Farmer does *The Cheerleader Show* as part of "Women's Work" at Venue 9. See Tuesday.

## Fri

### Jon Sims Center for the Arts

The Sims Center presents AIRspace Artist-in-Residence Shar Rednour in "Night Coming," a one-woman theatrical monologue. Rednour takes time from fueling the dyke sex revolution (she's the author of the *Femme's Guide to the Universe*, and producer of videos including "Sugar High Glitter City") to return to her roots in a show based on the wicked and witty women of her family. \$5-\$10 sliding. 8pm. 1519 Mission St. (btwn 11th & S. Van Ness). Tix/info: 554-0402; [www.jonsimsctr.org](http://www.jonsimsctr.org)

### The Center

"Queer-Youth-A-Palooza & Drag King Junior Contest." As part of the gala week of events for the new SF LGBT Community Center, queer youth take over Friday night. Featuring an Open House; Center tours; a Hope Altar; the "Jewels in a Jewel Box" art show; a Nail Salon; Chill Spaces; Psychic Lounge w/Tarot and crystal ball; Saint Mitcho's Craft Zone; Drag-a-Rama room; and Drag King Mac Daddy Lounge. With "Mixed Fruit Word Jam" featuring Youth Speaks special guests: DhaiaTribe and Deep Dickollective. Performances by BoyWonder; Juanita Morel; the Sister Sock Show and Mr. Hanky the Xmas Poo! Drag King Junior Contest hosts Fudgie Frottage and Sister Kitty Catalyst. Celeb Judges: Deena Davenport; Putanesca; Electro; Rat Bastard; Miss Juanita Morel; Sister Roxanne Roles; Sini Anderson; Cooper Lee Bombadier. Hip as Sh\*t DJs: Celeste; Clay; Mermaid; Wackmaster Jamez; Michael Blythe; Pusspuss; & Quest. FREE to queer youth (26 or so and younger) with donation of drag or books/magazines for the youth room. No one turned away for lack of funds. All Ages. 6p-1am. 1800 Market St. Info: [www.sfcenter.org](http://www.sfcenter.org)

### Z Center

The Hyena Comedy Institute presents the "Hyena Comedy All-Stars," featuring Missy Crawford, Walt Smith, Jenny Pritchett, Jennifer Jerutis, Charley Lu and Bootney Rigdon. Beer available. \$8. 8:30pm. Also on March 9. 2211 Mission St., upstairs. Tix/info: 643-8118, ext. 2; [www.hyenacomedy.org](http://www.hyenacomedy.org)

### Eureka Theatre

San Francisco Lyric Opera presents Rossini's *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* (The Barber of Seville) on consecutive weekends. In Italian with English supertitles. \$25. 8pm Fri. & Sat.; 2pm Sun. March 8-10 & 15-17. On Jackson btwn Battery & Front. Tix/info: 1-800-919-8088; [sfllyricopera.org](http://sfllyricopera.org)

### New College Theatre

ZaZa Dance Theatre presents "Spatial Jazz," exploring the essence of dance, refusing the superficial restrictions that choreography can impose. ZaZa is a multigenerational troupe including NEA award-winning choreographer Theresa Dickinson, Maica Folch and Samir Bitar. \$10 (flexible). 8pm. 777 Valencia St. Tix/info: 437-3463.

### Fifty Crows Gallery

Opening reception/awards presentation: The San Francisco Foundation and SF Camerawork present "The 2001/2002 James D. Phelan Art Award in Photography." The winners are Peter Tonningsen for his B/W photos of the vacant Alameda Naval Air Station; Tom Patten for his "Meat Pictures" of meat products; and Leigh Anne Langwell for her use of scientific imaging in her conceptual constructions of the human

body. 5:30-8pm. 1074 Folsom St.

## Sat

### Studio @ Rhino

Hot Pants Homo Players & Theatre Rhinoceros present "Lavender Lockerroom: A Comedy with Balls!" Written and directed by F. Allen Sawyer. Performed in mock "word-for-word" style, the play borrows the spirit of the "one-handed" pulp novels of the 1950s and '60s, yet spins them with a gay liberation moral. Imagine a pornographic after-school special. "Lavender Lockerroom" completes a trilogy Sawyer started with "Hot Pants Homo" and "Senator Swish." \$18. Thu-Sat. at 8:30pm; Sun. at 7:30pm (3pm on March 17). The Studio at Theater Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. (btwn Mission & S. Van Ness). Tix/info: 861-5079; [www.therhino.org](http://www.therhino.org)

### Luna Sea Theater & Gallery

"2 Styles 1 Love" featuring poetry by Lucky 7 and Robyn Brooks. East Palo Alto native Lucky 7 has just returned from a four-state tour with the Punany Poets, and is ready to



The Hot Pants Homo Players get it on in "Lavender Lockerroom: A Comedy with Balls!" in the Studio at Theatre Rhino. See Saturday.

## LET'S TALK ABOUT



Feminist trio Chicks On Speed perform with Le Tigre and Tribe 8 at the Great American Music Hall. See Sunday.

give you her Lyrical Wyzardry. Robyn Brooks is a Berkeley poet published in several anthologies, featured at the "SheSpeaks" series at Mama Bears Bookstore and at Luna Sea's lesbian of color show "From the Heart." \$10-\$15. 8pm. Also on March 16. 2940 16th St., second floor. Tix/info: 863-2989; [www.lunasea.org](http://www.lunasea.org)

### Swedish American Hall

QComedy presents a special one-night-only appearance by comedians Scott Capurro and Mark Davis, a rare opportunity to experience these two funny guys together in an intimate setting. Capurro, who has performed world-wide, regularly makes people laugh on the "Sarah and Vinnie" show on Radio Alice; Davis, last seen publicly in SF in 1998, is renowned for his social commentary and insightful character sketches. He'll also tell dirty jokes and offer a bed-time story by Mother Mavis Davis. \$15. 8pm. 2174 Market St. (upstairs from Cafe Du Nord). Tix/info: 541-5610; [www.QComedy.com](http://www.QComedy.com)

### Cafe Du Nord

Writers With Drinks presents an eclectic mix of spoken word stylings that run the gamut and throw down the gauntlet! Featuring John Shirley (cowriter of *The Crow* screenplay, author of *Demons and Spider Moon*); Michelle Tea (author of *Valencia*); Paul Addis (poet); Mike Spiegelman (stand-up comic); M. Christian (author of *Dirty Words*, editor of the *Burning Pen, Guilty Pleasures*); and Charles Anders (short story writer, author of *The Lazy Crossdresser*, webmaster of [godhatesfigs.com](http://godhatesfigs.com)). Anders ([www.charlesanders.com](http://www.charlesanders.com)) MCs and vamps. \$3-\$5 sliding (all proceeds go to local queer nonprofits) 2170 Market St. (at Sanchez). Doors open 5:30pm; show runs 6-8pm. Info: [www.cafedunord.com](http://www.cafedunord.com)

### St. Francis Church Parish Hall

Castro Area Planning + Action (CAPA) invites all to an innovative community planning workshop. Engage with neighbors and City Planners about issues you care about. The Church and Market area is a focus point for SF's Better Neighborhoods 2002 project. Bring ideas, questions, and a passion about the neighborhood. An Open Space process will be used to create a marketplace of conversations. Free. 10am-4pm. 152

Church St. (at Market). Info: 522-1221.

### HMI @ The Center

Harvey Milk Institute class: "Beginning Acoustic Guitar" with Elizabeth Fitzpatrick (10 Saturdays, March 9-May 18; 11am-1pm; \$195); and "Intermediate Acoustic Guitar" with Elizabeth Fitzpatrick (10 Saturdays, March 9-May 18; 1:15-3:15pm; \$195). 1800 Market St. (at Octavia). Info/registration: 552-7200; [www.harveymilk.org](http://www.harveymilk.org)

### Jon Sims Center for the Arts

The Sims Center presents "POLARI a Hip Hop Cabaret: 1920," by Hawaii-based arts company and hip hop crew JUHA. Agitprop theatrics with a queer Arab twist featuring a hip hop bazaar where queers, immigrants, people of color and all of society's misfits and castaways dwell. It's an underground railroad turned underground speakeasy in an apocalyptic age. Homes for "POLARI" are Jobboy, Saucy Vic, and Mirth. \$5-\$10 sliding (NO-TAFLOF). 8pm. 1519 Mission St. Tix/info: 554-0402; [www.jonsimsctr.org](http://www.jonsimsctr.org)

### Living Sober's

**Castro garage sale**  
Your donations of sellable items, as well as your purchases of other people's used goods, help Living Sober continue its work in helping people lead clean, balanced lives. Bring donations to the site by 9am on the day of the sale. 227 Sanchez St. (at Market). Info/Donations: Danny at 250-1824.

### Lavender Seniors, San Leandro

Lavender Seniors, a group for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgenders over the age of 55, hold their monthly potluck at noon. They are also seeking volunteers of all ages to work with socially isolated seniors. San Leandro Community Church, 1395 Bancroft Ave., San Leandro. Info/rides from BART: (510) 667-9655.

### SFSU Fine Arts Gallery & SF Arts Commission Gallery

Ongoing joint exhibitions/symposium: "CO-LAB: New Generations — Creative Partnerships in Art and Learning," in which established individual Bay Area artists pair up with teams of youth artists. Complementary rides between gallery locations on the Mexican Bus. The pairings include Rigo 2002 and youth from



LYRIC, at the SF Arts Commission Gallery (401 Van Ness Ave.). Rigo 2002 is recognized internationally for his studio and public art works. He and LYRIC's GLBTQ youth artists have designed and painted a mural, their second collaboration in recent years. The first, *Free To Be*, was sponsored by SFMOMA and displayed on Minna St in 1998. Today on the SFSU Campus, Jack Adams Hall (upper level, Cesar Chavez Student Center), a symposium for all teachers, artists, administrators, funders, parents and youth — open to the entire community — will showcase the richness, diversity and depth of collaborative art form. Free. 9:30am-4pm. Info: SFSU Fine Arts Gallery, 338-6535; or SF Arts Commission Gallery, 252-2590.

## Sun 10

### The Eagle

Tenderloin Tessie Holiday Dinners hosts a Beer Bust, dinner and raffle to help raise funds in time for Easter. This all volunteer organization helps raise money to feed the homeless and less fortunate. Volunteers in the kitchen and dining room prep are needed for the March 31 Easter meal at First Unitarian Church. 3-6pm.

### Great American Music Hall

Le Tigre, Tribe 8, and Chicks On Speed: Three kick-ass proto-feminist bands, each with their own unique style and sound. Opener Chicks On Speed are a Munich-based multimedia electronica trio, crafting deconstructed, feminist-leaning synth-pop. San Francisco's very own Tribe 8 wrote the book on hardcore dyke punk, and headliner Le Tigre, led by former Bikini Kill singer Kathleen Hanna, combines new wave drum machine beats with a playful punk feminist attitude. \$14. Two shows: 5pm and 9pm. 859 O'Farrell St. Info: 885-0750.

### SF Hiking Club

Join other outdoors lovers for a Black Diamond Mines hike. Enjoy an exploratory hike of the abandoned coal mines in the foothills on the north side of Mt. Diablo. It's a moderately strenuous 8-10 mile hike with a 900-ft. elevation gain. Meet 9am under the large Safeway sign at Market & Dolores. Info: 487-6410; www.sfhiking.com

## Mon 11

### HMI @ The Center

Harvey Milk Institute class: "How To Be A Media Slut: Public Relations 101 for Artists and Creative Types," with Gretchen Lee (2 Mondays, March 11 & 18; 7-9:30pm; \$45). Info/registra-



Christopher Lee and Shawna Virago rock for gender change at El Rio. See Wednesday.

tion: 552-7200; www.harveymilk.org

## Tue 12

### Venue 9

Women's Work presents Erin Mei-Ling Stewart dancing an excerpt from "My First Lady" (imagining Hillary and Bill as Beauty and the Beast) Caryl Fuller performing "The Zing Zing Thing," her comic capers exploring the powers of chemical attraction and its influence on dating decisions; and Kym Priess Farmer in "The Cheerleader Show," about a Southern lady who sees cheerleading as the path to inner peace ("We're all cheerleaders, so just let it shine!"). \$8-\$10 sliding. 8pm. 252 9th St. (btwn Folsom & Howard). Tix/info: 289-2000; www.venue9.com

### HMI @ The Center

Harvey Milk Institute workshop: "Super Sex Technologies: For Women," with Dr. Annie Sprinkle (7-9:30pm; \$25). Info/registration: 552-7200; www.harveymilk.org

### SFPALM

First Glimpse presents the first in a series of conversations with the creators of notable upcoming world premieres in the Bay Area. Tonight: Choreographer Alonzo King (LINES Contemporary Ballet) and composer Miya Masaoka will discuss their new collaboration, set to premiere April 19-28 at Yerba Buena Center. At the conversation Masaoka will perform an excerpt from her

score, and video from rehearsals will be shown. Conversation moderated by critic Brad rosenstein. \$15 (\$35 for three-event series). 6pm. SF Performing Arts Library & Museum, Veterans Bldg., 401 Van Ness Ave. (at McAllister), 4th floor. Info: www.sfpalm.org

### Intersection for the Arts

"The Hybrid Project: What Is Real?" Hosted by Sean San José and Joe Lopez, with Culture Shock, Donald Lacy, Loco Bloco and Janet Stickmon. Join a room full of people — DJs, dancer, actors, writers, musicians — In this continuing series, starting with fundamental questions, exchanging perspective, language, rhythm, redefining the space between, all with the goal of creating new performance languages. Pay what you can. 8pm. 446 Valencia St. (btwn 15th & 16th sts.). Info: 626-2787.

## Wed 13

### Geary Theater

"Out with A.C.T.," a new monthly gathering for gay and lesbian theater lovers, presents a special performance of Noël Coward's *Billette Spirit*, an ecotoplastic comedy of otherworldly proportions. Directed by Charles Randolph Wright. Featuring A.C.T. Core Acting Company members Gregory Wallace and René Augesen. A writer researching for an upcoming mystery novel invites a local medium to conduct a

séance in his home. To everyone's surprise, the ghost of his first wife materializes, determined to sabotage his new relationship. \$15-\$49. 8pm. 405 Geary St. Tix/info: 749-2228; www.act.sfbay.org

### Exploratorium

The 2nd Wednesday Art Series presents "Sight Unseen," an evening of installation and performance in which Bay Area artists infiltrate the blurred boundary of vision, staging subverted forays into the covert mechanics of the visible. Anthony Discenza uses large format video projection to capture and compress hours of TV channel surfing; David Goldberg and Meg Gardner offer a software game that allows users to manipulate the forces of urban development on an abandoned SF street corner; Lisa Jevbratt shows off software that allows net artists everywhere to create graphic representations of the inner, unseen languages of the Web. Randy Nordshow creates audio portraits of people by sampling their record collections. Free with museum entry (\$10 adults). 7pm. 3601 Lyon St. Info: 563-7337; www.exploratorium.edu

### El Rio

Electric Lady Land presents: "Be Yourself/Change Your Gender!" A Get Out and Vote party for SF Pride Grand Marshall nominees Christopher Lee and Shawna Virago. Kick-ass rock music by Virago & the Deadly Nightshade Family, Forcing Bloom and Angela Valley. \$5. Doors open 7pm; show at 8pm. 3158 Mission St.

## Thu 14

### Rainbow Room, The Center

The Harvey Milk Institute presents its "Spring Fling 2002," a fundraising reception co-chaired by Shar Rednour and Charles Purdy. Featured guests include comedienne Elvira Kurt, drag celeb Kennedy, and femme fatale Shar Rednour. Ambient music by DJ James L. Smith. Silent auction. 6-9pm. 1800 Market St. Info: 552-7200; www.harveymilk.org

### HMI @ Eros

Harvey Milk Institute class: "Buttplay: A Hands-In Approach: For Men," with Frank Strona (7-10pm; \$20). 2051 Market St. (at Dolores). Info/registration: 552-7200; www.harveymilk.org

### Jon Sims Center for the Arts

"LIT @ JSC," a program of brainy fun with Brighde Mullins (playwright), Justin Chin (poet, essayist, spoken-word and performance artist), Brian Thorntson (poet, actor) and Maria Breaux (director, actor). \$5-\$10 sliding (NOTAFLOF). 8pm. 1519 Mission St. Info: 554-0402.

## WANNA SUBMIT?

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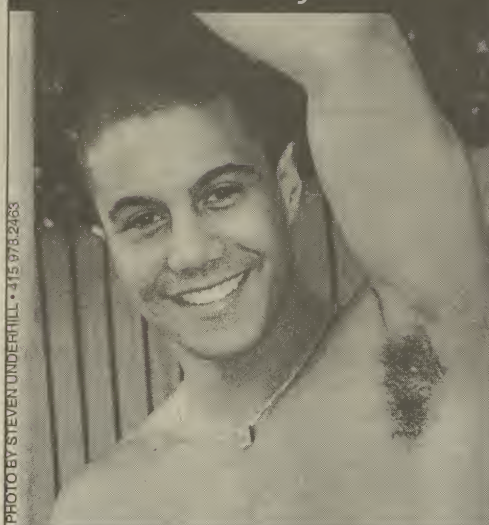
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Phelan Art Award winner Leigh Anne Langwell's "Dark Field" can be viewed at the opening at FiftyCrows Gallery. See Friday.

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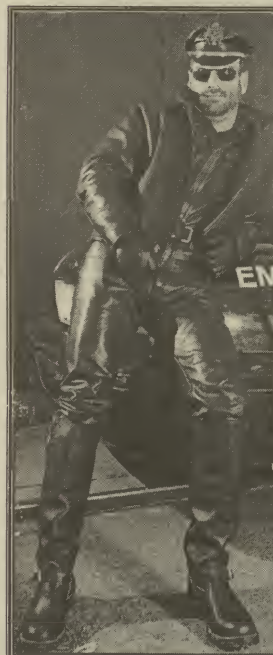
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# Leather in springtime

by Mister Marcus

From Boston to Dallas and San Diego to the Russian River, leather people gathered this past week to have fun, sash contest winners, celebrate anniversaries and continue preparing for leather contests in their own back yards.

In frigid Dallas, covered with a sheet of ice, the South Plains Leather Weekend unfolded with hordes of people converging for the Mr. South Plains Leather Contest, a vendor's market and workshops all weekend.

On Saturday night, judges Linda Blakeslee (head judge), Graylin Thornton, Linda Cox, Boy Patrick (Chees), Wayne Nesbitt and myself faced Randal Kinnear, Rocky Sykes and Ed Whittler at the Dallas Eagle with some 400 people cheering for their favorite contestant. Queen Cougar emceed flawlessly and Mr. Leather of ALL Texas, Stephen Boyd was the auctioneer for the basket entries.

After the speech, question & answer, physique and leather image categories, and musical renditions by a great Country Western singer, the tallies summed up by Stephen Scott and Lynette Hadlock were brought to the stage, after both rendered brief and sincere stepping aside speeches. Bedlam ensued as the handsome Ed Whittler was named Mr. South Plains Leather 2002. He will go on to compete at IML in May. Despite the rain, sleet and freezing weather, it was a hot time in Texas, I'll tell you!

In Boston, some 500 people gathered for the second annual American Brotherhood Fantasy Tour to benefit the Leather Friendship Fund, ostensibly for New England contestants at ABW in April. Ryan Goldner and Phyllis Darcy emceed the event, which raised \$1,200 for charity. The fun climaxed with a fire play scene featuring former American Leather Man Dean Ogren. Yes sir, it was a hot time in old Bean Town. It truly was an American Brotherhood Fantasy.

While all this was going on, more than 500 people gathered for the Mr. San Diego Leather 2002 competition at the Hole where three stalwart leather types



Five men will compete for the Mr. SF Leather 2002 title this Friday, March 8 at Club Townsend: from left, Michael Schaefer, Mr. Hayes Valley Leather; Adam Heller, Mr. Powerhouse; Peter Jackson, sponsored by Stompers Boots; Scott Brogan, Mr. Daddy's Leather; and Dan Alexander, Mr. Edge Leather.

got into the competition. Details are sketchy, but in the end, a handsome black leather man, Tom Dickerson, prevailed, and another name is added to the IML 2002 roster.

At the Faultline, also on Saturday night, the Mr. Ashram Leather contest was emceed by Mr. L.A. Leather Peter Fitz, which saw four leathersmen go for the title. Again, details are sketchy but when all the scoring was done, Keith Chester won the competition with Kran Clay the runner-up.

### On the home front

In San Francisco, five men ended up on the roster of contestants for the Mr. San Francisco Leather 2002 contest at the meet and greet at the Powerhouse on Friday, March 1. Emcee Dennis Silva introduced Peter Jackson (sponsored by Stompers Boots), Scott Brogan (Mr. Edge Leather), Adam Heller (Mr. Powerhouse), Michael Schaefer (Mr. Hayes Valley) and Dan Anderson (Mr. Edge). The judges were Omar Moseley, Ray Tilton, Jim Gatteau, Vincent Edd (from Seattle), Briggs Hawley and Head Judge Lenny Broberg.

The contestants had their judging interviews on Sunday afternoon and then gathered at the Edge for the Mr. SF Leather Travel Fund basket auction. There were big turnouts at all the events.

Do you have your tickets for tomorrow night? Club Townsend will be the hottest spot in town as

Mr. San Francisco Leather 2002 will be chosen. Good luck to all the contestants.

To add to the sash rash binge, the Russian River Eagle up in Guerneville, California celebrated its second anniversary with hordes of people from The City and elsewhere on hand to whip up all the hoopla. Congratulations and best wishes for congenial success to Jake and his staff.

### Chests on parade

On Thursday, March 28, six men jumped into the Mr. May 2003 bare chest competition at the Powerhouse, with another packed house on hand to witness judges Jake Schwartz, Biff Wilson, Robert Davolt and James Scott Geras put them through the paces with lots of laughs and audience howling. When it was all over, the handsome, sculptured chest with a body of Troy Anicete took the calendar spot, with Tom Sharbaugh the runner-up. Mr. June 2003 will be chosen tonight, Thursday, March 7. Judging this one will be the Wicked Witch of the East Vern Stewart, Bob Brunson of Daddy's, and Patrick Batt of the Dildo Mines. It should be most interesting!

And so it goes from the wonderful world of leather. Hope to see you all at the 2002 Mr. San Francisco Leather Contest tomorrow night at Club Townsend.

Until next week, for info from leather columnists around the world, click on [www.Leather-Page.com](http://www.Leather-Page.com). Keep living, keep laughing and keep loving — just do it in leather! ▼

## E V E N T U R E S I N L E A T H E R

### Thursday, March 7

Mr. June 2003 will be chosen tonight at the Powerhouse at 2130 when Vern Stewart, Bob Brunson and Patrick Batt will determine who wins the calendar spot and the \$100 cash prize.

In Munich, Germany, IML Stefan Mueller steps down from his Mr. Bavarian Leather title in a weekend long celebration in the heart of Bavaria.

Leather Pride reception at the new LGBT Center at 1800, hosted by Donna Sachet and Bob Brunson, with a horde of leather dignitaries. Be there! You're invited!

### Friday, March 8

The 23rd annual Mr. San Francisco Leather contest at Club Townsend. Doors open 1900, contest at 2000. Five men, seven judges, great entertainment, a "boxing ring" theme and the final leather contest at that club.

### Saturday, March 9

In Kansas City, Missouri, it's the Mr. Dixie Belle Leather 2002 contest at that hot newish club. Should be a great time!

In Philadelphia, Mark Collins steps aside for the successor to the Mr. Philadelphia Leather Title.

### Sunday, March 10

Big victory brunch for the new Mr. San Francisco Leather at Harvey's SoMa on Folsom St., with lots of silent auction items and other goodies to benefit the Positive Resource Center and the Mr. SF Leather Travel Fund. For more info, call 626-5004.

Madame S and Mister S present the SF Fetish Ball at the DNA Lounge tonight from 2100 to 0300 Monday morning. Fetish splendor and spectacular entertainment. Call 863-7764 for ticket information.

No. Calif. Drummer Boy Andrew celebrates his 30th with a beer/soda bust at Daddy's from 1600-2000, a "mini closet ball" with leather people forced to do drag to benefit the Breast Cancer Emergency Fund. Fun and entertainment.

### Tuesday, March 12

Bondage Buddies at 933 Harrison, with doors open from 2100-2300. For details, call 777-HEAD.

### Wednesday, March 13

Golden Shower Buddies at 933 Harrison. Doors open 2000-2300 For floating details, call 777-HEAD.

The Ring presents "Bondage 1010-Wrapping and Mummification." Get more info at: [thering@ix.netcom.com](mailto:thering@ix.netcom.com).



# As the bartenders turn

by Sweet Lips

Pouring drinks is an honorable profession, and those of us who walk the planks on your behalf, looking after your spirits, appreciate all the adulation and tips we get in return. We're one big, happy gay family! And just as in any other family, from time to time people move on, which has been happening a lot lately, especially among Polk Street bartenders. The latest to leave his post is Danny Bench over at the Cinch Saloon, who is headed to greener pastures elsewhere. The bar still thrives with top-notch pourers, including the great Tim, quiet Woody, and talented Jim, so that part of the family is still in fine shape. Drop on in and say hello!

Not only do bartenders go away, but sometimes whole bars! Where the old Gate Bar once stood at Pine and Jones, now there's only a big hole in the ground and a condo going up. Well, that provides Ronnie Lynn a lot of entertainment, as she gets to watch the hunky workers daily. Expect to see her going over there in drag!

Kimo's still has Tyler managing, and JD is still the morning bartender. For those unfamiliar with the more arcane details of our bartending community, JD formerly worked in Laguna Beach for two former girlfriends of mine, Marion and Kay. I'm sure you were dying to know that!

Johnny Weiss is still doing "his thing" very well at the Gangway



Just one big, happy gay family: Lips with Greta Grass at the Hob Nob.

on Larkin St. It seems as if Johnny came with the building!

## Night lure

Here at Club Rendez-Vous, where the excitement never ends, look for a new and interesting bartender doing the night shift. Why, even I turn up to admire his skill and charms. And you know that if another bar-

tender can lure me out at night, he must be interesting.

In case you missed it, or didn't hang around to get the results, the Portland Party here at the Vous

raised a little over \$5,000 for their educational fund.

And speaking of Portland, some good news out of a bad situation: Mame of Portland is recovering. She can walk and talk some after her bad stroke! Get well, Mame — we all miss you.

Also, don't forget that on March 17, Club Rendez-Vous will be hosting a big St. Patty's Day bash, so come on down and bring your valentine, or let your heart be pierced with love while you're here.

In closing, I want to say, along with everyone at Club Rendez-Vous: Congratulations Berlin and Barbie, San Francisco's new Emperor and Empress! ▼

## Cocktail Hour

## SF Symphony

◀ page 30

successful. The brief "Fame," which quickly punctures the desire for notoriety and sounds a bit like a bluesy number from a '30s nightclub, fits uneasily in the delicate surroundings: an amusing but jarring interlude. "Nature Studies" is the glory of the set. Here is where all the elements blend perfectly. The music is particularly apt and the orchestral writing lush, the singer's voice is used to best effect, and the tender sweetness of Dickinson's words create a dreamy reverie.

MTT has a concerto waiting in the wings, *Urban Legend*, written with Symphony contrabassoonist Steven Braunstein in mind. That will premiere next season. The latest and most intriguing chapter in his remarkable career is off and running.

## Composition coach

We have never known Steven Mackey as anything other than a composer, though he also coaches

women's tennis and teaches composition, music theory, and courses on 20th-century music and improvisation at Princeton University.

Come to think of it, we do know him as an electric guitarist from the *American Mavericks* festival. I blocked the memory because, while he considers the instrument his primary love, he distinctly underwhelmed many listeners at that festival with his improvisational noodling.

Previous encounters with his music and concert performances have had many perplexed by MTT's tireless advocacy. He is an attractive personality, and his scores are interesting enough, but there has been no whiff of great potential. At least, not until now. Damned if MTT didn't outguess us.

The premiere of Mackey's *Pedal Tones* two weeks back proved there is a major talent emerging from maverick beginnings. The new score manages to beguile and packs a terrific wallop. MTT gave it a splendid debut.

The overriding effect of Mackey's biggest effort to date is of a snazzy concerto for organ and or-

chestra, with distinct flavorings of Indian raga. The composer mentions Bach and R&B as influences, but there is Balinese gamelan in the instrumentation, and one extended stretch of melody sounds more than a little like Sondheim.

The 30-minute piece flies by with the energy of a high-speed train, and Mackey exploited Davies Hall's Ruffatti pipe organ to thrilling effect. Soloist John Walker made a grand impression.

Aside from the brief but spectacularly vulgar inclusion of a disco whistle, Mackey has scored *Pedal Tones* expertly. Conductor and orchestra, with four additional percussionists, gave the four shifting pedal tones an allure that proved irresistible.

The audience responded with restrained but genuine enthusiasm. This listener was considerably more impressed. When Mackey ran from his place in the audience and leaped gracefully some four feet onto the stage to take a bow, the applause increased. His athletic abilities shine forth in *Pedal Tones* with equal daring. ▼

## Book Report

◀ page 34

timore is a gay man, a sometime actor, an accomplished hand model, and a happy transplant in Manhattan, when he gets the word from his brother that their mother is dying and that it's time for Clu to be the good son and return to Grit, Texas, to care for mom and her dozens of Chihuahuas. Clu's long-suffering lover, Chris, agrees to go with Clu

to Texas and stay until his mother's death. Clu, a bitter, repressed and hostile man, hates just about everyone, but does so from the sanctimonious perch of the victim, and so thinks that his verbal abuse of old friends from high school, siblings, and store clerks is somehow justified.

Clu gives speeches, diatribes really, about the goodness of gayness, the holiness of homophobia, the quality of queerness. By the time [warning: plot revelation] Chris dumps him, we can only wonder

what took him so long. Clu becomes less bitter after a sufficient number of pages has elapsed, not because we see any changes in his attitude. A pointless subplot concerning a country-western musical version of *Agamemnon* offers little diversion and absolutely no laughs. Sibley seems to think that the mere fact of Grit, Texas automatically provides humor, and that the mere fact of his hero being gay makes him appealing. He's wrong on both counts. Take a pass on this annoying bit of wretched excess. ▼

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## PARTING GLANCES

### Bryan- Nevada Plates

Saw you @ Market/Castro- great to see you again. Lost your email, old phone info now inaccurate. Respond to ad or, I haven't moved. "Smooth" Craig, 715331

### "Scott- Italian Guy!"

Where are you? We had such a great time. I still love you and I am mad about you. Call, I am Jay, 715332

### Spikes Coffee Shop Wed. Jan 30

You have blond hair, beautiful blue eyes, a great smile. Unforgettable. You said hello, asked how I was, waited, but left before I got my coffee. Let's meet. 715333

### To My Baby "Grilla"

Thank you for 8 wonderful years. I will love you for ever'n ever and ever, love The Big Girl, 715334

### GG Park Fri. 2/22 3:30-4PM

We had fun. You left in Suburu, I walked. Would like to get together. 715376

### Mans Hand Party Fri 2/8

I asked you about your t-shirt from Austin TX. Band you saw, we didn't get to foot around but I would like to. Please give a call. 715335

### Christian Geary Goodwill 2/20

Wed. 6:30pm, me blond Dennis, you with modified notawk which I complimented. Was too shy to continue conversation after we said goodbye, when you were lingering outside. Coffee? 715377

### ~Bookstore Chinatown~

Wednesday 2/20 about 3pm met in bookstore. Shared a booth. You wore white shirt with lettering "Joe Boxer Briefs." Want a repeat performance? 715378

### "Where's The Good Looking HIV+ Guys?"

Goodlooking HIV+, SGWM, clean and discreet. Looking for friends, lovers, possible LTR. Me 42yr, soft brown curly hair, dreamy hazel eyes, needs monogamous companion. 715379

### \*Harbin Hot Springs 2/15\*

You- dark skin long black hair. Me- white furry glasses. In main hot pool, you were looking. I was shy. Wish I'd said hello. Call me. 715380

## SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

### CuriosityGetsThisGWMEverytime...

It keeps this 50+ y.o. young- 6', attractive, trim 170lbs, h/w prop, vers, well-equipped, uncut. Dark blonde, educated, traveled professional, healthy poz. Curiosity? You're just a call away... 715386

### Sad Boy In The Closet

Capricorn male, 40, 5'9", introvert, mature wise looking for the guy who would take care of him. 715337

### GWM Seeks Cute Hairy GM Top

39, 5'11", 210#, s/p hair, beard, attractive, hairy, drink, smoke, HIV- bottom. Looking for an attractive, friendly, hairy, HIV- top guy to date, with relationship as a goal. Interested? 715388

### Exploring My Gay Side

Good-looking WM, 50, 6'1", 195#, reasonably fit, fun, bright, loving, playful, college grad enjoys camping, dancing, reading, helping others, seeks physical/emotional connection leading to dating/ltr. Race unimportant. 715357

**How About A Little Bump & Grind**  
GBM prof. top 50 seeking GWM bottom 48-60yrs for good hot sex on an occasional or on going basis. Also open to some type of relationship but horny for now. Smk, drink, and aroma all good. Prefer you be somewhat stocky build, enjoy sexy underwear and nudity. No heavy beards. 715339

### Affectionate Men

WLM 44, 6'165lbs, mod hry. ISO men over 45 who enjoy lots of affection, kissing, & oral pleasures. Prefer liberal-minded, husky bearded-looking men not into the gay scene or lifestyle. 71540

### "Seeks Topp Dad"

Lite GBM, 40's 5'9", 160, masculine, clean, HIV neg., prof. literate, trust worthy, sincere, eager to please, sexy. Get at me. 71541

### Experienced Sex Partner Needed

Me goodlooking who's inexperienced wanting to learn oral anal from smooth clean shaven w/40 to 50's into butt licking oral expert who can gently turn me into bottom. 71542

### Attractive Masculine Cowboy!

Easysgoing goodhearted nice guy, masculine, muscular, intelligent, affectionate GWM seeks masculine in-shape top man with facial hair for friendship or possibly more. 71543

### ~Young Seeking Older~

I am GAM, 29, 5'10", 175#, goodlooking, seeks gay men 55-75, for dating and possibly relationship. Interests in movies, outdoor, travel, and working out. Looking for someone to share good times. 71558

### I'm 19 yrs Old Name Christian

I am 19 yrs old seeing 19-22yr of age. Please call. Looking for long term relationship. 71559

### White Top With 9" Cock Wants Hot

White or Latino ass to fuck. You be under 40 in shape and have hot fuckable ass. I am 57, 6' tall, 9" cock drk brn hair brn eyes, glasses 175lbs. 71560

### Dom Dad/Coach ISO Sub Son/Jock

ISO Sub W/M mid-50's, attr, intel, NS, ND, ISO 30+ self-supporting trim and fit son/jock. Objective: uninhibited sexual and emotional fulfillment. TT, WS, roleplay. Other goodies. 71561

### Turkish Men Only Merhaba!

San Francisco GWM 55, 5'7", 160# handsome, stable, secure, para. Fantastic life ahead, tatlin. 71562

### Italian Guys

I am looking for Italian guys who are good looking, for a relationship or fun. If you are hung it is a plus. 71581

### Over 40 Yo Top Needed

Be very experienced smooth to lite hairy clean shaven, not bald uncircumcized any size cock okay to fuck my untapped bottom. am White goodlooking need good hard pounding. Your place. 71582

### "Ride Em Cowboy"

Where do retired bull riders go? Pacific N.W. Country boy at heart 41, low mileage, lean, slender, versatile, fun loving romantic seeks soul mate, extra points for masculine inhapse, mature strong man. Travel, host. 71583

### Young Cute Russian

Is looking for another cute and intelligent European or American to share this life together. I am cultured, have various interests both in life, and in sex. Faithful, humorous & sexual. 71584

### Jewish Style 50s Body & Mind Romance

Let's be 2 well educated professional men, who want to share mind and body, who are handsome, centered, affectionate, with broad range of interests, HIV negative and relationship focused. 71585

### A Dream To Be Truth 4-U2 Have

GLM 39yrs. Sagittarius. Wt 155 ht 5'8", brn skin. 33 waist. Nice guy, masculine, muscular HIV+ healthy. You GWM-GLM slim, smooth under 39yrs. 71586

### ~GWM Seeks GM-Or-BM For...~

I'm 25 looking for guy, bi-sexual male for playing sex. Friendship, other wise be yourself. I'd like someone to share fetishes with, possibly as well. 71587

## SEEKING ADVENTURE

### Fisting Vers. Or Rim Slave Pig

Let's play take your choice. Fisted you and rim you sucking. 71567

**Nude Beach Naked Fun-Buddy**  
ISO GWM beach-buddy, in shape NS/ND, 30-50 hit the local nude beaches this Spring or have p.m. fun in E. Bay, S.F. GWHI 5'5" 135 br/br in shape HIV- Ub2. 71544

### \*Homo Hobo!!!\*

Homeless guy, hairy, smooth tight behind, hazel eyes, light skin, freckles, 12ee in sandals, chub, looking for safe fun, kicks, wide shoulders. 71545

### Asian Bottom Seeks Topp

5'10", 140, 30's, shaved head, kind, sensual, aggressive, good kisser, nice and HIV-. 71546

### "Butt Buddies"

One on one or small playroom parties-toys, fingers & fists, be sociable & versatile or top-No hard drugs. GWM, 43, 6'3", beard/hairy/stocky. Bears & cubs A+. 71547

### Cop Strip Search

Amateur cop strips you naked and orders you around. Erotic role-play fun for tight bodied guys 20-40's. By in-shape WM 43. 71548

### Shut Up And Ride

WM 37 5'10" 195lb blond/blue muscular guy wants good looking masculine men to screw, anytime and any place. 71549

### Brazilian Guy Looking For GWM

I am 37, 5'7", slim, 142, easysgoing, smart and caring. Would like to meet WGM to have fun and maybe? "Nice too I have for you". 71550

### Dad Spans Bottom Boys

Roleplay, buttpay, rim, oral/give/take hugs & kisses too. Me: GWM, 45, 6'5", 250lbs, moustache, hairy chest. You: GM, slim, smooth, 21-35 only, nice butt that needs attention. 71551

### Oral Top Needed For Pnp 3-Way

My top wants to see me sucked and fucked by hot top. 2 fun loving party and play sex pigs looking for week-end fun. 71552

### "Bilbo, I Owe U One Valentines!"

Sorry the day turned out to become a mess. It was our day, but didn't end up like roses. I'll make it up. You'll see. "K". 71563

### Seeking Passionate Fun

GWM, 47, 150lbs seeking trim Asian, Latin or Black for hot passionate sex & fun. Must like to kiss, hug & stroke. Days best. Your place or mine. 71564

### Uncut, Hung-9, Hairy, Masc, Musc

GWM, 50, 5'9", 160, balding, muscular/gauche, versatile dad. ISO masculinism fit man, great butt, nice cock, "nipple work", verbal, light S&M, rough, tender, kiss & cuddle. Live on East Coast, visiting S.F. Apr. Nude photo required, butt photo get mine. I am HIV+poz/ok! 71565

### Bondage Partner(s) Wanted By

GWM, 5'11", 165, red-brown, blue, moustache, 52, muscular top, HIV-, N/S, N/D. Enjoy body contact, CBT, TT, leather, bondage, & exploring my partner's interests. Vanilla to spice. 71566

### Sonoma Co. Oral Bottom

Masculine, fit/hung cocksucker seeking big dick to service to completion. I dig uncut, low-hangers and big loads. 71568

### \*Passionate Sex Bud\*

Bright, clean-cut, masculine 44yo GWM, 6'3", 175 slender-muscular powder seeks built, masculine G/Bi WM top who likes take-charge foreplay & fucking. A moudy butt using condoms. 71569

### Hot S.V.S. Bay Boy Needs Dad!

6'1", 225lbs. brn/gray, goatee. Very clean 40y old (ks 30) WM in Sunnyvale, looking for hot hairy, daddy type, for daytime fun. 71570

### Mulatto Guy Sexy, Intelligent,

Educated, light-skinned, good looking, and well-hung, looking for guys to get together with for fun etc. 71568

### \*Looking For Big Cocks!\*

Looking for guys that are hung "9" inches or more, for sucking or jack-off, or must to kick back & have fun. 71569

### Jack Off Sessions!

If you want to kick back, watch videos and jack off with a real hung guy, just contact me! 71590

### Caucasian Ass For Asian Dick

Need Asian tops to fuck my ass while I'm on my stomach, me: Caucasian, mature, hairy, stocky, big talented ass, you: short, slender, smooth, HIV-, Asian into ass fucking. 71591

### Oral & 69

W male slim hairy hung 55yrs HIV- seeks w male in-shape, HIV-45yrs +60 for mutual oral and 69. 71592

### Oral Sex Buddy

Gay Asian 48, 5'8", 149lbs smooth athletic body looking for GWM (40-60) HIV- for regular oral sessions. Your place in San Francisco. 71593

### Spice Up Your Next JO Session

Masculine WM wants to watch senior citizen J/O up close suck your balls near end and watch feel your hot cum splitter my face. 71594

### Birthday Fantasy Fuck!

Seeking nice looking guy with 9" + Huge cock to fuck my partner, a professional dancer w/tight bubble butt, while I watch. You won't be sorry, he loves being slammed! 71595

### Fuck My 2 Hungry Holes

Hot/horny GAM seeks nice delicious cock to fill up. I'm excellent in bed and always cleaned, ready and lubed. GWM+. 71597

### I Like It Fast And Hard

Middle aged but hung and horny Black man needs good head often. Be mature, masculine, experienced, easy to reach. Moustache a plus but no beards or goatees. Oakland area. 71598

### Very Cute Sexy European Bottom

Is searching for a cute dominant top, who knows the way to be pleased. Total submissive guaranteed. You won't be disappointed. Please, be under 40. 71599

### Wanted! Bk Muni Bus & LRV Drivers

Let this White/Latin cock-sucker service you, while you're on duty. I ride with you to the end of your line. One time only, or on a regular basis. 71600

### Wanted: Man From India For Sex

E. Bay GWM, 52, husky, seeks Indian man to kiss back and front, and more. Married ok. UB 25-40. 71601

### Hot Mouth/Ass For P02 Men 40+

GWM, 52, 5'10", 155, s/p hair and goatee, seeks top men who also enjoy mutual oral. This uncut guy will have you begging for more! Enthusiasm more important than body type. 71602

### "Men Of Color!"

Discreet, quality White boy 6', 170#, slim build, in-shape, seeks sexually dominant, in-shape, safe, sane, vigorous and hungry Black men or mature boys. 71603

## FETISHES

### Raunch For Topp

Hardworking ranch slut gives enthusiastic rimming your way; deep tongue action pool cock/ball worship and care of your brown and yellow needs by bottom feeder. 71553

### "Skinny Hot Guys!"

I'm into servicing skinny or very slim guys who like to kick back while getting done and then showing me their hole for rimming and ass eating. 71554

### Ball And Tit Torture!

W.M. 220# 45yo. goodlooking w very big balls and tits. Wants mutual w including stretching, slapping, weights. Also welcome men who want to work balls and tits. 71571

### Derby Jackets/Ben Davis Guy

Shaved-head ski-masked skinned thigh will do anything twisted. Dig cholos, tuffs, guys in derby jackets, Ben Davis gear, hoods. 71572

### "Scat"

GWM, 50, looking for Bk man into scat. 71573

### Sheersocks/Leather/Cockrings/

Forekiss. These are a few of my favorite things. I'm Latin, 5'10", with brown hair/eyes, Van Dyke beard, pierced nipples/ears. Also into bodybuilding, pispemoking, facial/body hair, and you. 71574

### Sub SM BD CBT TT FF WS RIM VA

Merciless, gagging, choking, skull fucking. Boot, foot worship. Flogging, whipping, strapping, paddling. Me 35, smooth, HIV+. You dom, clean, sane, sadistic. 71575

### Young Cute Puppy

In search of a dog or slave trainer under 40. The puppy is cute, sexy, very obedient & very eager to please. Will be fully trained to your satisfaction. 71605

## COUPLES

### \*High Quality Group Sex\*

A small but growing "tribe" of hot, in-shape men are looking to explore the potential of high quality group sex. We want to meet other guys who are willing to open up & explore the frontiers of raw male pleasure together. Looking for uninhibited sexual explorers who want to discover & co-create something new. 71606

## OTHERS

### Fighter, Looking For Other

Beginners for sparring, NHB fighting or advanced willing train/teach skills. GWM, 41yo, 165# seeks similar. 71555

### Need Workout Partner- Concord-

40, GWM, 190lbs. Have local gym membership but having hard time going. I'm too lazy. Looking for same, mutual motivation. Three days weekly would be great. Call me. 71556

### Into Latex Sex

Latex sex is hot sex is safe sex! Always wear a condom and never exchange bodily fluids. Play safe! 71557

# BAR TALK

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# Soul piercing

by Jason Serinus

*The Diary of One Who Disappeared* - Janacek; Piano Works, Ian Bostridge and Thomas Adès (EMI)

Artists often create their most powerful works when externalizing inner conflicts. In the case of his song cycle *The Diary of One Who Disappeared*, the 63-year-old Czech Leos Janacek (1854-1928) suddenly found himself infatuated with a young married woman, Kamila Stosslova. The attraction arose just as the composer, long married to a woman described in the liner notes as "dutiful but dull," was in the midst of reading a sequence of gripping poems published in the local Brno newspaper. Purportedly written by a "self-taught man," the cycle described a farmer's son's seduction by a Gypsy woman, and his subsequent choice to abandon his family.

The poems, which mirrored Janacek's desire to leave his wife and elope with Kamila, immediately inspired him to express his conflict in song. Work on *The Diary of One Who Disappeared*, the first of Janacek's many compositions inspired by Stosslova, commenced in 1917; the opus was completed two years later, and premiered in Brno in 1921.

Janacek's 22-song cycle received immediate international recognition, with additional performances scheduled the following year in Berlin, London and Paris. It remains the composer's only mature cycle of songs.

Janacek masterfully underscores the narrative's emotions with highly evocative piano accompaniment. The work begins passionately, as the agitated young man describes meeting a gypsy girl whose "black tresses hung over her breasts," and whose eyes, "like two deep wells," immediately pierced his soul.

Moving from fear to tenderness, from prayer to remorse, the lad becomes increasingly haunted by desire. Eventually seduced in one of the two songs in which the gypsy is given voice (by mezzo Ruby Philogene, who is occasionally joined by an alluring offstage chorus of three women), he surrenders to his obsession. Wishing to make love again and again, he acknowledges that above the knees of his true love, "her rough spun skirt now rides high." Abandoning God and family for the gypsy, he departs with a final, passionate outpouring that climaxes with two demanding high Cs.

## Secret affair

While the poetry certainly has its melodramatic elements, anyone who has carried on a hidden affair, lived a double life, or left one partner for another will recognize the genuine emotional turmoil at the heart of the cycle. Thankfully, Janacek sets the poetry with such a masterful hand that his creation consistently rings true.

Although *The Diary of One Who Disappeared* has previously received recordings by such distinguished artists as Nicolai Gedda, Peter Schreier, and Ernst Haefliger, this new rendition by Ian Bostridge will surely earn it a wider audience. ▼

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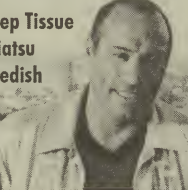
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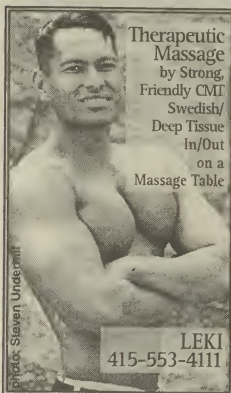
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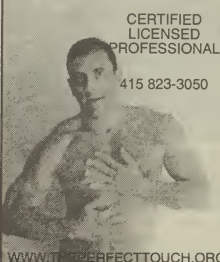
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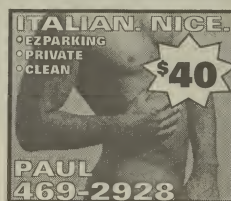
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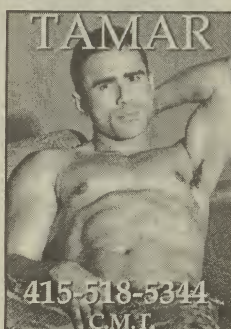
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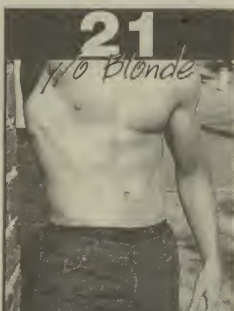
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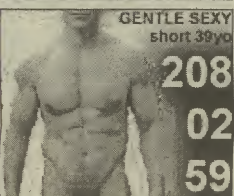
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210" OF PURE MUSCLE  
VISITING MAR. 10-18TH IN-CUT CALLS  
407.301.4858 MORE PHOTOS @  
WWW.RICODULCE.COM

**21, NEW IN TOWN!**  
5'9", 135#, 6'c, Thin Swimmer's Build,  
Great Legs & Ass, Cute, Boyish & Playful.  
In-Out, Versatile/Open Minded. 24/7.  
Nick: 415-414-4200.

Slender, mysterious stranger  
will travel, hotel, in/out, into vanilla  
to bondage 24hr 208-8099

**DOMINANT ASIAN TOP**  
Handsome good body 5'11", 160 lbs  
Sexy \$80/in, 100/out David 297-6568

**HORSEHUNG LATEIN**  
5'8" 155# Blk/brn 32w smooth  
muscular build Robert 415 414-0463

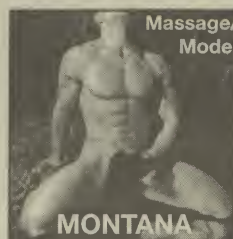
**WWW.  
TOTALTOP  
.COM**

6'225" very handsome 34yo stud w/  
**THICK MUSCLES**  
Great thighs/calves & big manly  
muscle butt. Awesome hairy chest  
19" arms; also avail. foot fetish

**VISA/MC UNIFORM**  
Fantasy, tickling, etc. 415 828 0748

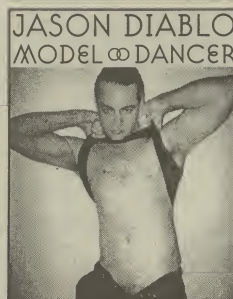
Handsome 25yo w/packed shorts  
**SOCCER JOCK**  
Lean, athletic body - top  
www.eromenos.com  
Kevin pg#605-5328 in/out

**SIZE 12 FEET**  
HOT 21YO WM 739-9217  
**WWW.SFFOOTPLAY.COM**



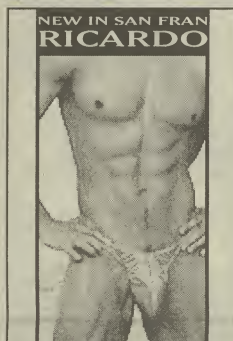
Massage/  
Model

**MONTANA**  
404.819-.8276



**JASON DIABLO**  
MODEL & DANCER

8'1" 160# 415 505-1353



**NEW IN SAN FRAN  
RICARDO**

HUNG LATINO TOP  
24/7 415.238.0588

Domint\*oral/top\*kicks/back for service  
**\*10"X6\*UNCUT\***  
very verbal\*role play\*w/s\*fat tool  
goodlooking\*in or out\*847-3585 \*24hrs\*

**LEATHER TOP!**  
Light to heavy sensual S/M  
handsome experienced w/dungeon  
**TOM 415-487-1296**

**14 EEE  
FOOT FETISH**  
etc.  
**219 6000**

34 5'8" 150# furry toned tattooed  
**FIST MASTER**  
Jeff 415-215-8396 Out only  
http://come.to/jeffsfist

5'10", 175#, hung and uncut  
**23YO BRAZILIAN**  
I'm Ricardo, a friendly sexy  
escort with no attitude and  
very passionate. Masculine and  
handsome, lean muscular body.  
Intelligent and discreet.  
Visit my web site for pictures  
and more! www.latin4men.com  
415-264-8000 Out only

**HORNY FRIENDLY DUDE**  
26, 5'6", 135#, lean, solid  
great tool. Hot and juicy.  
Patrick 415-846-2824 SF in/out

Frat Boy Hunk  
Solid Muscular Pecs, Abs & Legs  
Deep throat and young jock ass.  
5'9", 155#, 30"w, 8"246-4460

**SAN JOSE STUD**  
**WWW.SJBOY.COM**  
27, 5'11", 165#, blond hair  
Pager/voice: 888-325-3005

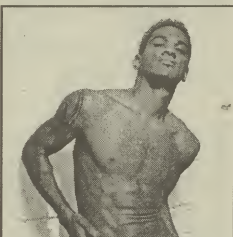
**COLLEGE BOY-21**  
TALL THIN HOT  
In-\$100 out-\$120 415-377-1704  
www.geocities.com/sfcheckit



**Hot Mediterranean Stud**

34yo, 6'10", good looking, sexy,  
masculine, very affectionate,  
100% discreet.

**Miguel (415) 550 6864 Out \$150**



**KAI 220lbs 6'9"**  
**415 699 7053**

**LEATHER KINK**  
LONG, SENSUAL SESSIONS  
WITH A TOP WHO ENJOYS  
TAKING HIS TIME. TALL &  
BUILT. FULL PLAYROOM.  
**RICK 431-0959**

•HOT TOP•  
Italian 6'2", 200lbs. 35yrs old, thick  
fat tool, hung, 9x6. Smooth and mus-  
cular. Also available for sensual mas-  
sage. Serving SF and all Bay Area.  
Anthony cell 415-643-4566

**RUSSIAN BOY**  
20y.o., 6'1", 179lb, bl/gr, 7"  
Out only 415 254 5750

Ruck in you go www.rucks.info  
Ruck@doglover.com&call:COL-RUCK

BB bottom in 60 out Bay Area  
10am 11pm 415 459 3488

Ouch daddy! Do it again, sir! Vers  
hung, eager, 207 0508, out, call me!

10"x6" CUT 6'6" 220 BR/BL 45YO  
**XTRA HUNG DAD**  
All scenes-kink- 24hrs 255-8093,  
verbal, role playing.

**ECSTATIC ASIAN**  
-Hot- bottom fun.  
older gents welcome- \$40- 725 5805

\*Handsome\* Masculine\* Hung\* Dude\*  
**KICKS BACK FOR YOU**  
5'11" \*175# br/gr\* mid 30's \*8" cut  
Days ok-Soma-\$75/In Randy 309-1032

**LATIN HUNK**  
34yo. musc, hung 8", 165#. 5'9",  
nice chest. Bud nasty, vers top will  
travel. (408) 607-5113

**CHINESE SPICE FOR U**  
26, 5'11", 174lbs, 7"uncut, playful  
top, suave, smooth 415-251-0261

Asian butt pg (415) 338-4011 outcall

**INNOCENT&STR8**  
Hot-sexy-kinky & fun!!!  
Mike 415-995-7550/707/510 areas

**STEEL WORKER**  
6-1, 180#, muscular, 9inch cut,  
29yrs, Top call Steve 415-595-3064

Sexy, masculine, well built guy  
with thick muscular legs/butt.  
Worked-out body with big balls  
and a beautiful tool. Ready to  
kick it 24/7. Call Jay @ 948-8131

**WHITE BOY 24/7**  
Butch nasty bottom \$75 861-4650



## PERSONALS

## MODEL/ESCORTS



**SAN FRANCISCO  
MARCH 7TH - 11TH ONLY  
NYC BODYBUILDER  
AND ESCORT**

36Y/O, 265LBS,  
54" CHEST,  
34" WAIST,  
20" ARMS,  
28" THIGHS,  
18" CALVES,  
HUNG WITH A  
ROCKHARD MUS-  
CLEASS,  
100% VERSATILE.  
SENSUAL MAS-  
SAGE  
TO FETISH

CELL:  
**917-749-4634**  
VISIT MY WEBSITE AT  
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I'M A BODYBUILDER FROM THE  
SUNSHINE STATE LOOKING TO  
SHOW YOU A GOOD TIME.  
THREESOMES ARE WELCOME!  
MEASURE - WEIGHT: 209, WAIST 32,  
CHEST 46, ARMS 18, LEGS 28.  
TO REACH ME CALL TONY AT  
**321-438-3607**



**VINCENZO TROIANO FROM  
THE SUNSHINE STATE.**  
210 LBS OF SOLID MUSCLE  
PERSONAL TRAINER.  
VERY DISCREET.  
PHONE  
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Masculine guy w/buzzcut & goatee.  
Well hung, big balls, smooth & tall  
fun-loving & easy-going buddy for  
hard times and oral needs

**SHVD HEAD STUD**

Clint\*540\*5311\*in/out\*24hrs.

Beautiful stranger 27 y/o slender,  
toned, sensual, kind 24hrs  
415\*208\*8099 In/out travel

**HUNGRY ORAL BOTTOM**

Into kissing, tit play, fantasies  
role playing, verbal domination,  
porno. Call Brad (415) 242-4230  
**IN/OUT- \$50 WITHIN SF**

**JUST THE BEAR FACTS!**

Hnsm, hry, ftblplyr type, 6ft, 275  
hungry mouthy that loves to serve  
Call 415\*820\*1658/\$85.00/frndly

**HORNY THAI BOY**

Very cute, 22yo 5'9" lean great  
service kinky-role play vers  
in/out 922 9864

**FORCEFUL PLOWING**

By hot hung top pg 888 215 2268

**HOT LATINO BOY**

Eric 24y/o, 135lbs, uncut, discreet  
handsome 415-305-6856 versatile

**MASSAGE - IN CALLS**

Transcend through touch into a deeply  
erotic state of body & mind. 10AM  
to 8PM. Rick, CMT (415) 595-8492

Tom Asian 31 5'7", 145 muscular  
<http://move.to/fun4all> 412-7261

**BIKER TOP, ITALIAN**

6'3", 235lbs, muscular, inked,  
thick stache & tool 13ee feet  
Bruno 415-596-6235

**\*\*\*BOTTOM LATIN\*\*\***

5'7"ht. 155 wt. Built

**IN/OUT 415 637 4270**

Eves/wknds

**GQ MODEL**

Very hot 28 yr old 5'9", 165#  
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hot great butt. Older guys only  
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**EXCEPTIONALLY ASIAN**

Stunning masculine 22yo 5'8"  
145# w/real intelligence. Sexy  
& very hot Doug Young 414-2945p

**PUERTO RICAN 24**

Versatile, 5'10", 175lbs, muscular,  
masculine, friendly, tattoos, very  
attractive, passionate, 10cut,  
down to earth. In/out Angelo  
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**ALL OF IT=9.5X7**

On the outside: All Amer. 6'3"/200lb.  
V. musc., smooth, blind/brn, wash abs  
on the inside: wild, open, fun  
avail. 24hrs 415\*810\*0560  
[pics@falconstudios.com](mailto:pics@falconstudios.com) go to:  
models go to: Eric Wright

**BI GRAD STUDENT**

Very handsome, preppy, cleancut  
bi 27, young professional type.  
White, brn/grn, well toned bod.  
Friendly, very well educated,  
into getting serviced only.  
Located mid-peninsula, in/out.  
Steve, cell 650-270-3233.  
[www.geocities.com/ynigExecEscort](http://www.geocities.com/ynigExecEscort)

Party! Party! Hang on tight+slide  
hung, 207 0508, Out, vers, 24h, kinky

**ORAL CRAVINGS**

Satisfied by sweet and cute guy  
35yrs. 5'10", 160# 8 inches, cut.  
Call Andy 246-5625

**20 YO BLOND TWINKIE**

8"cut Bl/Blu 5'11" 155lbs vers  
Pics: [www.RyanKid.com](http://www.RyanKid.com)  
\$160 outcalls 415-235-4156

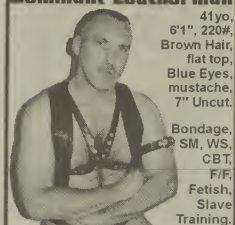
Massage n play handsome muscular  
hung Italian plays with young  
n hung to hot daddies. Firm massage  
ass n ball shave n play time too!  
Fun 4u David 305-5268

Pete is a huge bear  
the best hand-job ever!  
Safe, slow, and intense every  
time. (415) 647-6212 \$40.

Hot, 145, 5'8", smooth, top@playsafe

**8" MEX/ITALIAN**

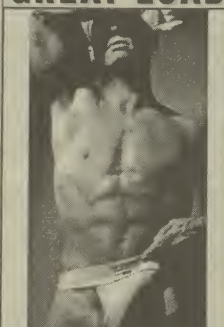
Call Mario 558-7719 Out Only

**Dominant Leatherman****Beginners Welcome**

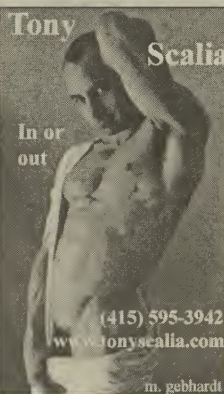
Have equipment and playspace.

Scott (415) 414-1132 In/Out

[www.masterscott.com](http://www.masterscott.com)

**GREAT LOAD**

HONEST 9" THICK CUT LARGE SMOOTH  
LOW HANGERS. MUSCULAR LEAN GYM  
BODY. BIG LOAD WHEREVER YOU NEED IT  
MOST. BLONDE, 31YRS, 5'11", 170#. XLNT  
PERFORMER. TOTALLY ACCURATE AD.  
TOP STUD. CALL IAN-8150 OUT-CALLS  
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**CUM STARVED  
MUSCLE PUNK!!**

Submissive bottom great service  
Nick 709-1467

**HOT STRAIGHT ITALIAN**

Great face/bod  
925 927-9057

**HUNG LATIN TOP**

23, 5'8", 140#, lean tight body  
military buzz cut 9x6 real incs.  
Marco\*24hrs. 415 305 2474

**CORNFED VALLEY BOY**

24y/o brn/brn 5'9", 185#  
very versatile/cute  
Outcall Bay Area 415 254-4689  
Ask for David

**SM TOP**

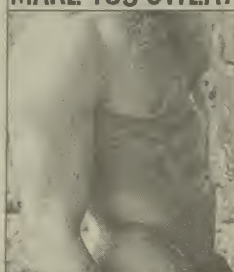
Skilled and caring SM top  
available for play and training.  
Send email to [smtopforhire@yahoo.com](mailto:smtopforhire@yahoo.com)  
for information.

**WANT IT ROUGH?**

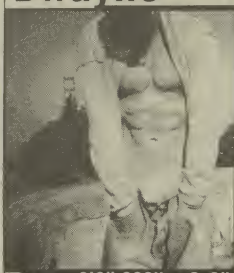
Lean smooth leather top, 33  
gives it like you need it. Sling  
FF/SM/BD/TT/WS limits expanded  
**PAGE JACK 219-5608**

**S/M SENSUALITY**

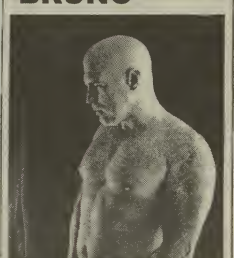
-long, & slow-my specialty.  
6'2", 185, strong, gymtoned  
master into all aspects &  
degrees of leatherplay.  
S/M, B&D, FF, WS, raunch.  
Lord 431-0959

**MAKE YOU SWEAT**

Strong, muscular, handsome, top  
drk hairy chest, big piece of meat  
and know how to use it. \$200  
New in town. TJ. Pgr 415 210-0397

**Dwayne**

6'2" 200lbs 9x6"  
**205-7105 In/Out**

**BRUNO**

6'3", 235#  
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[www.DaddyBruno.com](http://www.DaddyBruno.com)



**YOUR  
BD/SM  
FANTASY  
MY  
TALENT**  
[WWW.BONDAGEMASTER.COM](http://WWW.BONDAGEMASTER.COM)

**HUNG FF TOP W SLING!**

Solid muscular 6'180 48 leather  
big nips 9" beauty lg hands toys  
ws long sessions avail. Photo on  
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**BI 10X6.5 CUT**

Shane-25, White, swmrs bod, clean  
cut, %100d/d free, Baldwin looks,  
kickback \$100-out only-after 5  
see me-bishane10@yahoo 203-5550

Hot Italian boy 5'8", 140 25y/o  
Hairy masc. vers. Erin 882-7388

Hung big 8" 26yo 6', 165# top

**NEW IN TOWN**

Jake 415 820 1663 vm/ out only

Handsome hung bear age 46 \$60  
Outcalls only James 551-8104

\*\*\*\*24HOURS\*\*\*\*

415-303-0252

**Tom BuStone  
SF BAY AREA**

Handsome Hairy Hung  
6' 160# 35 AllTop

Reliable Professional  
Trustworthy Open-Minded  
Discreet Safe  
Vanilla Kink  
Domination  
Role Play  
Massage

**HOT!**

Its your money-  
Demand Quality  
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email: [TomBuStoneXXX@aol.com](mailto:TomBuStoneXXX@aol.com)

**JEFF RYAN**

washboard abs  
cut chest  
big arms  
friendly  
respectful  
educated

415-317-0527

excellent top  
actual 6'  
5'10, 160#

**9"**

24 hrs, 24 hrs, 24 hrs  
Dark blonde hair  
hazel eyes  
washboard stomach  
27" waist • versatile  
Call anytime 837-8900  
for immediate callback

**FOR MEN 50+**

MUSCULAR TOP MID 40s 6'3" 185#  
ENJOY SCENES FROM SLOW, SENSUAL & PASSIONATE  
TO LEATHER & KINK. UNHURRIED & DISCREET.  
EXPLORE SOMETHING NEW WITH ME!

**CALL DUKE 415 436-9379**

**HOT DARK HUNG TOP**

Superfine 34yo Ital 5'5", 130#  
affectionate sane & reasonable  
Angelo 415-414-4664 Out only



## MODEL/ESCORTS

**leather FF P**  
**ryker**

playroom

in/out  
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40 5'11" 180  
beginners welcome!

**20Y/O ASIAN SKATER DUDE**

in/out  
415-577-0460  
40 5'11" 180  
beginners welcome!

**DREW 415 577-6210**

## ASIAN FEVER

Chinese, vers./top. 5'7", 130#, 30yr  
\$80/out only 415-563-8711

## \* XXX PORN STAR \*

(415) 540-0622 vm or pics@www.  
mjlwgraphicdesign.com/wylde.html

## X-TRA HOT VGL 31 VERS

Fresh young drk hair eyes 165lbs.  
defined, cut body, 6' & 6 pack for  
play, companionship eves, some  
days 150 per hr. 415 572 8714

## NORDIC BLOND BOTTOM

Tall lean smooth muscular hung/  
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## BLK AMERICAN TOPS

Handsome hung and long lasting  
also friendly and open minded  
CEDRIC PGRVM 510 639 6576  
Out only

## HOTCHOCOLATE23

Goodlooking thug type guy  
friendly & passionate w/big  
tool & knows how to use it  
5'10, 150lbs. In/out call Cameron  
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## HOT STU 4 AZN/DARK

Welcoming White guy w/total pkg 4  
You! 4azn.homestead.com/s4a.html  
Curt 552-4106 Castro

**HOT HUNG YOUNG**  
**HORNY & FUN**

**TYLER 415 336-8169 CELL**

Hot 9" versatile

## GYPSY BOY (415) 245-0098

## CUT TO THE CHASE

Solution-oriented hypnotherapy  
for erectile dysfunction/stress/  
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Heron Saline, CHT 415/437-2470/  
caring, effective, & confidential

## HOT SALSA

Slender, hung, smooth. Travel avail-  
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## BIG DADDY BEAR

6'5" 260, 44 avg hung, big nuts,  
Out only. Friendly guy! First timers  
a specialty! Indulge your cravings! Al  
(415) 271-0369

**TOM HOWARD**

5'11 280' 415-350-8897  
TomHoward10@aol.com  
www.Webcastor.com/TomHoward

32y. 5'8" 155# blonde/blue 7.5cut  
masc. musc. Ass/body. Discreet

## VERSATILE BOTTOM STU D

Call Mickey 415-596-0562

## 57"135# sexy, slim, smooth 908-8888

## ASIAN PORN STAR

Hot, horny, handsome \$65in/\$95out

## Hot blonde w/green eyes 57" 135

## SEXY NEW BOYT0Y

Hot & horny 22yo smooth/verstl  
in/out calls-Jason 415-948-9589

## TOTAL TOP

Masculine hung Blk for FF  
WS or plain old vanilla.  
30yrs old 5'10" 215lbs. muscular and  
well defined \$175.00  
Ray 256-6027pgr.

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lukesteale.com

6'  
225

VISA

## HOT HAWAIIAN FILIPINO

30 smooth & muscular for massage  
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## !BLACK ADONIS!

Cute 24yo hot top 10"x6 cut  
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## HUNG MUSCLE

Very handsome 5'9", 190lbs of  
ripped muscle. Into all scenes.  
Extra hung and hard tool.  
Friendly masculine White guy.  
For unhurried service call  
Andre 415-699-3269 24/7

## TOP TLC

Very handsome well endowed, great  
body, bedroom eyes, passionate  
affectionate, smart & friendly will  
make you very happy. 207-6025

**DOMINANT LEATHERMAN**  
415/336-8135

Spanking  
Flogging  
CBT/TT  
Surrender  
Intimacy

**HUNG 9" X 6"**  
www.ThomasEscort.com

## THE RUFFER-THE BETTER

Horny thick-hung hotguy(png)24h  
207 0508. Out. Vers+eager 2 please

## VERSATILE 20YO!

5'9", 149lb, toned & smooth \$100hr.  
In/out 24/7 (415) 713-5309 cell#

## HOT CUBAN TOP

9x6 uncut beauty. Handsome 45yo  
6'4" 170# body builder. Warm and  
friendly. Will travel. Rates from \$80.  
Alex 643-7770 24/7

## IT'S REALLY BIG

## ...AND GETS HARD

**DAX (415) 902-7378**

Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs

## ASIAN TOP

\$80/\$100 \* JIM 269-5707

## Frat Boy Hunk

Solid Muscular Pecs, Abs & Legs  
Deep throat and young jock ass.  
5'9", 155#, 30"w, 8"246-4460

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510-238-8877  
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1-888-272-7277

San Francisco  
415-330-4888  
Use FREE code 2160

1-800-505-2323 (\$1.99/min.) 18+ Browse at www.interactivemale.com

**HORNY STRAIGHT GUYS 1-900-505-2324 10¢ min 18+**

**Casual Sex 30 Minutes**  
with code 9881 Women Call Free! For over 287 cities 1-888-465-4LUV (4658)

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Check it out!

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TALK SEX

900/50-50-500  
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**24 HOUR MEN!**  
24 hours a day HOT, HUNG MEN  
are looking to HOOK-UP on Club  
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FREE! Call 415-247-5595  
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**Find Local Romance!**  
ON THE  
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Call 18+ LISTEN & RECORD FREE!  
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Browse, match, chat!

Connect Live 1 on 1!

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Browse, match, chat!

Connect Live 1 on 1!

Record & listen to ads FREE!  
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415-247-5555  
East Bay  
510-749-9966  
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Use Access code 4858

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Call 18+ LISTEN & RECORD FREE!  
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Find Free Love Tonight!  
18+ Record & Listen FREE!  
Call 415-247-2000  
Use Access code 4858

## PEOPLE

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**BAY AREA MEN**

- Live Talk
- Meet Ads
- Voice Mail

24 Hours  
\$2.00  
976-7500

**Free**  
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